



INDEPENDENT

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Hugh James
Negligence Claims Rise to 140



National Trust Annual Meeting is a Revelation



MAKING ENDS MEET

MACS Shipping
Closely Monitoring the
'Christmas Voyage'



Limited Number of Airlink
Tickets at Reduced Price



WE DESERVE
BETTER

Property For Sale



Property Alarm Forest £160,000.00

- ▶ This is a very well finished house inside and out
- ▶ 2 Bedroom House with garage and off-road car parking
- ▶ Good size kitchen and lounge as well as a shower and bath
- ▶ The property is not overlooked and offers a mature garden with ocean views



Residential Property to Rent in Longwood £550 per calendar month

Exceptionally well finished and well-presented 2 Bedroom Property with new bathroom and kitchen. The property provides a large parking area and out-door space.

Further details available at DPS, The Market, Jamestown, St. Helena, STHL 1ZZ or email derek@dps.co.sh or Telephone 00 290 67022/25836



Making Ends Meet - When there is no end in sight



MAKING ENDS MEET

Making Ends Meet is a voluntary organisation which tries to help people do just that. It is a charitable company that aims to give a person or a family some financial help, a 'one-off hand-up' when they go through a rough patch. The wage earner may be ill and there is no money coming in. Or there could be an emergency because extra money is needed to get the washing machine repaired. The repair is essential because an elderly relative needs a high level of care, keeping up with the laundry is just a part of that. Washing by hand is no good; especially when assisting an immobile family member has already caused a bad back. There is no end to the emergencies and no end to big worries too many people have because money is short.

The cost-of-living crisis means more people are worrying. More people are short of money for basic essentials. More people reach out for help, from someone. That includes Making Ends Meet. People being short of money to deal with an emergency has become more common. Making Ends Meet receives an increasing number of requests for help. So many in fact, that Making Ends Meet is also finding it very difficult to make ends meet.

Talking to Cilla McDaniel this week, it is clear she is very conscious that fundraising in St Helena is all around us, all the time, for all sorts of good reasons. Trying to raise funds means joining a crowd, all trying to do the same thing. It can be difficult asking people who have already given to give some more. Working with people who have difficulty making ends meet means being very aware about taking donations from people who are so kind they are willing to give a little something despite being in need of the money themselves. But the fact is, Making Ends Meet needs donations so they can help people make ends meet when they have an unexpected, real emergency.

Assisting in an emergency is the key to what Making Ends Meet does. It is a fact that some people live week to week on very small incomes. Shopping for food can mean first finding the bus fare, sometimes £4 from the meagre amount that is set aside, after deducting for the Utilities Bill from the small weekly income. If a visit to the hospital means paying for a taxi, a tough week becomes a nightmare.

Making Ends Meet cannot provide on-going support on a regular basis despite the difficulties - it can only help in emergencies. Understandably, this decision can be difficult to accept by those who are always desperately in need of more money to get through the week, but this charity is not an alternative to social security. The charity helps with Utilities Bills, food vouchers, medical bills, spectacles, funeral expenses but it cannot pay off debts or loans. Sometimes it checks to see if there is alternative support, such as family members contributing. Voluntary organisations such as Making Ends Meet cannot commit to regular financial assistance from the donations they receive.

Businesses sometimes have a fund for community giving and Making Ends Meet has received donations from these sources in the distant past but such income cannot be guaranteed. It is usually the way that when more people are feeling the pinch because of rising costs, so are businesses. In times of need, when donations are needed most, income to charities like Making Ends Meet tends to reduce. Because of this, the charity implores that people do not abuse the system, through demanding when the need is not so great, taking, when someone far needier could benefit.

The charity that started as a temporary measure in 2012, has continued through the hard work of the many people who have worked on the Committee, especially those who have demanding jobs but continue to play supporting roles. Cilla personally thanks those who kept the charity going in her absence. The current Committee, Daryl, Loretta and Christine deserve high praise for continuing, especially when confronted with the very few confrontational and abusive people who make the job even more difficult.

Making Ends Meet is going through tough times trying to overcome issues when demand is so much greater than availability. Cilla McDaniel said to the Independent that money and support is so tight, Making Ends Meet may have to decide whether it can continue as a charity. Can any of us help the Making Ends Meet charity to continue helping those in most need? Some new donations will help them decide to continue. If you would like to contribute, the Making Ends Meet Bank of St Helena account number is 23953002.



Tel: [+290] 22327
Email: independent@helanta.co.sh
<http://www.independent.sh>

Editorial

You will not know Simon Cawdery, I don't either. But he wrote something about the state of democracy in our sister overseas territory, the Cayman Islands. Once again, I found striking similarities with St Helena. Cawdery starts with the usual general introduction, "Look around the globe at democracy in all its forms. From Europe, to Asia, to Latin America to North America, each region has its share of problems and challenges." He added, "Since the very dawn of democracy, threats to its continual survival have never been far below the surface and, it must be said, the fact that democracy has survived everything that's been thrown at it is both a testament to its many benefits and due to the courage of many over the ages."

Then he starts poking a stick in the rotten undergrowth of Cayman democracy. First, he points out 13,334 Caymanians who can vote are not registered to vote. That is 36% of the eligible electorate. A country should not be proud of itself where 30%+ of people aren't registered to vote. That's the very definition of disenfranchisement and risks smelling of active voter suppression.

Voter suppression is when the procedures put in place to register to vote are intentionally designed to make it difficult for a section of the population. So why aren't Caymanians registering to vote. Mr Cawdery, who is described as a governance professional, supports auto-enrolment. So, when Caymanians celebrate 18th birthdays (it would be 17th birthday in St Helena) they would be automatically presented with a voter ID card to have and to cherish for life everlasting. The same would happen with any adult who became a Caymanian.

This next one is a good one. One reason Caymanians don't register to vote is because they are then automatically eligible for jury service. The system has auto-registration for jury service but not for voting at elections. Think about it, that can be described as a bit strange. Cawdery points out that if everyone who eligible to vote is registered to vote, the chance of being called for jury service is reduced.

Next, Cayman has 19 MPs. That is one MP for every 1,234 who voted or 1 for every 3,621 of the whole population. Cawdery believes the lowest ratio of MP to population is 517 – for an unnamed tiny country. I have news for him. In St Helena there are 331 people to each councillor. Then comes the question, do we need that many councillors? The next question – do we need a parliament on small islands with small populations? There are so many ways to communicate now. Each way of communication has several different methods and techniques for communication. What is called the Westminster system of government was born at the time of the horse and cart. People and letters took a day to cover just a few miles. Cawdery asks if it is time to scrap the

Westminster system of representation and the massive bureaucracy that goes with it. He also asks if it is time to scrap the ministerial system of government; just when St Helena has caught up a bit and adopted that system. Cawdery states, "It seems to me to be completely anachronistic, unnecessary, and risks the wrong people running important departments."

What is the alternative? Cawdery continues, "Imagine if Cayman elected, instead of a 19-member parliament, just one executive minister through a national vote. This person would be elected similar in a way to how a president or a governor or a mayor is elected. In the US, each elected governor runs their state with executive authority and is supervised by an elected body. If elected, the winner would then have a clear mandate for action, with executive authority to deliver." And, "give the new executive minister a budget to hire a team of six professionals on market-competitive salaries to run the various divisions of government. Logically, those people would be hired based on their experience or ability to get something done, since the accountability would be clear. Fail to deliver and you get fired at the next election. This system would instil the executive minister with genuine authority and a clear vision and plan for the elected period. This would also result in big decisions being able to be taken rather than be lost in committees or parked in the long grass." Cawdery sees the system he favours enabling longer-term planning. It would also be a cheaper way to govern as well as more effective. The right people with the right skills and experience would be hired and work within one executive team, under the direction of the single, elected, executive minister. If someone who was hired to join the executive team turned out to be incompetent or corrupt, the executive minister has the power to fire that person and re-advertise the vacancy.

This is not a new thing. All US Secretaries of State are unelected. The new UK prime minister appointed his preferred but unelected prisons minister by simply appointing him to the House of Lords. "Departments of government would be supervised by people with experience, gravitas and knowledge rather than their ability to win a 500-person beauty contest." Says Cawdery. The beauty contest being the candidates at the general election and 500 being the number that usually turn out to vote in a Cayman constituency.

Cawdery gives us in St Helena plenty of food for thought. We will not go hungry chewing on that lot.

At a recent opening of an art exhibition in Italy, just about the first thing that happened was some person for some reason smashed an exhibit. Something called Porcelain Cube had to be renamed Porcelain Pieces in the blink of an eye. Here is the before and after.



Editorial

It looks like the pieces have been displayed in the absence of the one cube. Maybe they could not find the super glue. I can't help but think, uncharitable as it may be, the 'pieces exhibit' looks very similar to several other so-called art exhibits that have graced exhibitions in the past.

**Summer's coming!
Have a good weekend
Vince**



Hugh James Negligence Claims Rise to 140

Ruth Powell and her team from Hugh James is coming to the end of another visit to St Helena. The visit has followed what is now a familiar format – apart from arriving two days later than scheduled. On Tuesday there was a radio chat on Saint FM with Mike Olsson to make it known they are here. Office space was pre-arranged once more with the Consulate Hotel so clients, old and new, can be seen privately. Yesterday there was a public meeting at the museum for people wanting an update and ask general questions.

The main piece of new information to come out of the radio chat is the number of claims High James is now handling has now climbed to 140. It was explained not all the claims are against clinical negligence by Sergio Villatoro or Carlos Soto. Details could not be given but it appears other clinicians are now involved.

Also new is the Hugh James team included a barrister this time. Barristers are the legal people who appear in court, representing the solicitors' clients. Barristers are independent of solicitors but work with them on court cases. However there appears to be no chance any claims will be presented to court any time soon.

There was little indication during the radio chat of any important advances with what has turned out to be legal wrangling between SHG and claimants'



representatives. There was no mention of discussions with SHG during the visit. Ruth explained that in the UK the entire legal process for claims can take about two-and-a-half years. In St Helena it is likely to take longer. No clear signs were given that the process has started to move forward yet, in any meaningful way. On that point Ruth was keen to make is that no matter how long it takes she is determined to see all the claims through to the finish.

'Pay Day' for Hugh James is when claims are settled; and settled in the claimant's favour. The claimant receives financial compensation, known as damages, determined by the court and Hugh James are awarded costs, payable by SHG as the losing defendant. As things stand, it appears SHG will be contesting the claims. The longer this legal marathon continues, the higher the claim is likely to be for costs.

Big compensation claims for negligence against the UK government are not unusual. Recently, there has been the Windrush scandal and the Sub-Postmasters, also a scandal. A common feature of these big compensation claims is that several of the claimants are dead before claims are settled.

National Trust Annual Meeting is a Revelation

The formal part of the St Helena National Trust AGM was completed in about 20 minutes. This gave ample time for the presentations which have become the popular feature of the Trust's AGMs. Something new this year was the print version of the annual report was distributed at the meeting. Previously the report has been loaded onto the Trust's website the day after the AGM and the print version follows. A 32-page A5 booklet was the annual report, with a front cover photo showing the piercing eyes of a masked booby staring accusingly at you. Inside, the small booklet was stuffed with all the projects, activities and work that occupied the Trust during the year.



Item No.1 is OUR IMPACT, a list of 12 one-liners giving a mere suggestion of what the Trust has been doing all year.

1. For every £1 provided by SHG, we returned it 12-fold to the Island
2. High Knoll Fort profile resurrected
3. Nine new species of spider to science
4. Grade 3 rating on predator control (exceeded expectations)
5. Rubbish collected – 286.3kg
6. 39% increase in Wirebird nests
7. 130,742 images produced for archival records
8. 1 new education resource pack produced
9. 73% increase in community engagement
10. Plastic Pollution Network created - UKOTs and CDs
11. 2 high profile visitors
12. St Helena designated a Hope Spot (abundance / diversity of species)

The Trust has three main areas of work – Terrestrial Conservation, Marine Conservation and Built & Cultural Heritage; all including education and outreach. Excellent presentations of all projects and related activities at the annual meetings include detailed research which pushes the boundaries of St Helena's natural history this year and every year. Terrestrial Conservation includes; plants at the Millennium Forest, invertebrates at the Cloud Forest, vertebrates on grassland, predator control -protecting seabirds and Wirebirds.

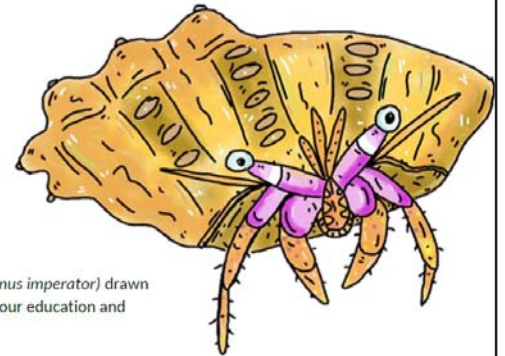
Marine Conservation includes; Bone sharks (continued research), Seabird monitoring, marine plastics pollution. Built Heritage includes; the St Helena Environment Register, High Knoll Fort and Stone Cottage.

Culture includes; the Endangered Archives Programme and Trans-Atlantic Slave Memorial Project.

Other activities include Advocacy, Education and Outreach, Community Engagement and Social Media messaging.

The Trust's president, Neil Fantom, summed it all up very well in his message, included in the annual report.

This is a long list, and the Trust does not take on this work alone. I would like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge all the support for our activities from our many partners. From those that help fund our many projects and activities, to the staff, that work tirelessly – and often in difficult conditions – to preserve the culture and environment of the island, to the many volunteers, including my colleagues on the Trust's governing Council, to St Helena Government, for their support and collaboration, and to the many other organisations and individuals who support conservation in all its forms, for their own efforts and teamwork. And if you are not already doing so – please join us!



Hairy hermit crab (*Dardanus imperator*) drawn by our resident artist for our education and outreach

© SHNT



DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 29th September 2024 – Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral

The Parish of St James

Sunday 29th September 2024 – Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
5.00 p.m.	Patronal Festival	St Michael
	Thursday 3rd October	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John

The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 29th September 2024 – Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year

11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 1st October	
7.00 p.m.	Reserved Sacrament	St Mark

Limited Number of Airlink Tickets at Reduced Price

On Tuesday this week, SHG and Airlink announced a limited number of tickets on all St Helena flights are immediately available at £640 return.

The offer applies to all flights, including the Christmas and New Year period and to Cape Town International as well as OR Tambo (Johannesburg). The offer continues through to 30th March 2025.

Flights can be booked online at Airlink's website at www.flyairlink.com. In St Helena flights can be booked in person at Da Nova Travel in the Market (phone 25793) or Solomons Travel Agency at the Malabar (phone 22523).

Flight Times

Flight Schedule 2024 – OR Tambo Only

Flight No.	Date	Leg	Flight No.	Date	Leg
4Z131	28-Sep-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	28-Sep-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	5-Oct-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	5-Oct-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	12-Oct-24	JNB-HLE	4Z3135	12-Oct-24	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	13-Oct-24	ASI-HLE	4Z132	13-Oct-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	19-Oct-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	19-Oct-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	26-Oct-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	26-Oct-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	2-Nov-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	2-Nov-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	9-Nov-24	JNB-HLE	4Z3135	9-Nov-24	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	10-Nov-24	ASI-HLE	4Z132	10-Nov-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	16-Nov-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	16-Nov-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	23-Nov-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	23-Nov-24	HLE-JNB
4Z131	30-Nov-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	30-Nov-24	HLE-JNB

Flight Schedule Pre-Christmas

Cape Town International (CPT) and OR Tambo (JNB)

Flight No.	Date	Leg	Flight No.	Date	Leg
4Z131	3-Dec-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	3-Dec-24	HLE-JNB
4Z338	7-Dec-24	CPT-HLE	4Z3135	7-Dec-24	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	8-Dec-24	ASI-HLE	4Z339	8-Dec-24	HLE-CPT
4Z131	10-Dec-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	10-Dec-24	HLE-JNB
4Z338	14-Dec-24	CPT-HLE	4Z3135	14-Dec-24	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	15-Dec-24	ASI-HLE	4Z339	15-Dec-24	HLE-CPT
4Z131	17-Dec-24	JNB-HLE	4Z132	17-Dec-24	HLE-JNB
4338	21-Dec-24	CPT-HLE	4Z339	21-Dec-24	HLE-CPT



Flight Schedule After Christmas

Cape Town International (CPT) and OR Tambo (JNB)

Flight No.	Date	Leg	Flight No.	Date	Leg
4Z338	28-Dec-24	CPT-HLE	4Z339	28-Dec-24	HLE-CPT
4Z338	4-Jan-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	4-Jan-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	7-Jan-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	7-Jan-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	11-Jan-25	CPT-HLE	4Z3135	11-Jan-25	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	12-Jan-25	ASI-HLE	4Z339	12-Jan-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	14-Jan-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	14-Jan-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	18-Jan-25	CPT-HLE	4Z3135	18-Jan-25	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	19-Jan-25	ASI-HLE	4Z339	19-Jan-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	21-Jan-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	21-Jan-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	25-Jan-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	25-Jan-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	28-Jan-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	28-Jan-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	1-Feb-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	1-Feb-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	4-Feb-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	4-Feb-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	8-Feb-25	CPT-HLE	4Z3135	8-Feb-25	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	9-Feb-25	ASI-HLE	4Z339	9-Feb-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	11-Feb-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	11-Feb-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	15-Feb-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	15-Feb-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	18-Feb-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	18-Feb-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	22-Feb-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	22-Feb-25	HLE-CPT
4Z131	25-Feb-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	25-Feb-25	HLE-JNB
4Z338	1-Mar-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	1-Mar-25	HLE-CPT
4Z338	8-Mar-25	CPT-HLE	4Z3135	8-Mar-25	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	9-Mar-25	ASI-HLE	4Z339	9-Mar-25	HLE-CPT
4Z338	15-Mar-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	15-Mar-25	HLE-CPT
4Z338	22-Mar-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	22-Mar-25	HLE-CPT
4Z338	29-Mar-25	CPT-HLE	4Z339	29-Mar-25	HLE-CPT

April flights are not included in the reduced price offer

Flight Schedule 2025 - OR Tambo Only

Flight No.	Date	Leg	Flight No.	Date	Leg
4Z131	5-Apr-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	5-Apr-25	HLE-JNB
4Z131	12-Apr-25	JNB-HLE	4Z3135	12-Apr-25	HLE-ASI
4Z3136	13-Apr-25	ASI-HLE	4Z132	13-Apr-25	HLE-JNB
4Z131	19-Apr-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	19-Apr-25	HLE-JNB
4Z131	26-Apr-25	JNB-HLE	4Z132	26-Apr-25	HLE-JNB



Tristan Now Has Internet Seven Times Faster Than Ours

Tristan Administrator, Philip Kendall announced on 16th September that Starlink had arrived on Tristan. Immediately internet speeds were 30 times faster than the Island ever had before. The fastest download speed advertised in St Helena broadband packages is 20 megabytes a second. Tristan now downloads at up to 150 megabytes a second.

This was made possible by SpaceX and the FCDO. Starlink's satellites use a low Earth orbit to deliver broadband internet capable of supporting streaming, video calls and more. The new high-speed broadband internet will be a boon to Tristan da Cunha's ability to communicate with the outside world. It would give the island easy communication with the rest of the world and open the door to telecommuting jobs which are currently impossible. This also will allow for telemedicine, remote education, and a host of other things that all of us take for granted.



Starlink satellite antenna fixed to a Tristan rooftop

Cunha?' The Starlink antenna has to be ordered from the UK and shipped by Richard James International.

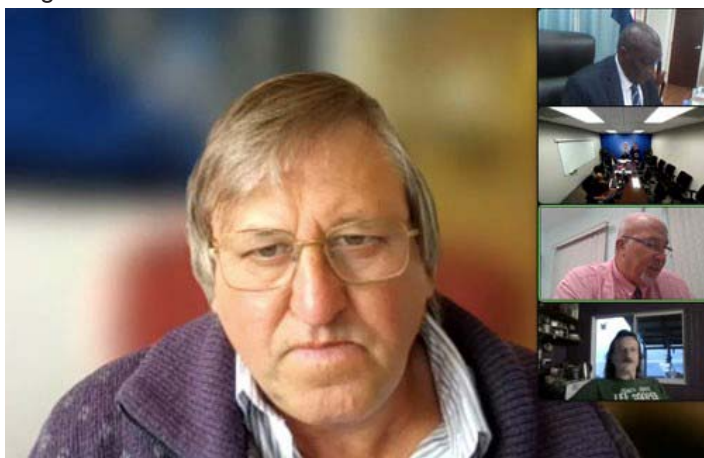
Starlink Licenced on Ascension

In April last year the Ascension government held a public consultation on the future of communications services on Ascension Island. The consultation focused on a licensing approach for electronic communications networks and services that can be used until such a time as the Telecommunications Ordinance is updated. The result was Ascension, like Tristan, now gets Starlink (ROAM Version) and it can be used on Ascension Island as long as a licence from AIG costing £10 a year is paid for. At the time Starlink connections were allowed, the charge was £85 a month for unlimited data. Internet speed increased, up to 200 megabytes a second. That is ten times faster than the fastest offered in St Helena.

Starlink Banned in St Helena

Last December, SHG issued a general reminder that using terminals, such as Starlink, for the purposes of internet connectivity is in contravention of the exclusivity of current telecommunications licensing arrangements under the Telecommunications Ordinance 1989. The reminder added, "SHG committed to providing the wider public with access to the fibre optic cable ahead of the scheduled January 2024 switchover. Since 1 October 2023 the domestic Island network has been connected to the Equiano cable, extending a number of benefits to the community. This has resulted in significant improvements to the telecommunications service provided by Sure South Atlantic (Sure), improving the offering to their customers in terms of both cost and scope of service provided."

The scheduled January 2024 switchover has come and gone but St Helena is still not fully 'switched over'. The Independent is aware of several complaints from people saying speeds were noticeably different immediately after the partial switchover on 1st October but speeds seem to have slowed down since. Buffering has become an irritating problem, sometimes worse than ever before. No dates are given by SHG for when the fibre-to-home link will either start or be completed. Nor is there any indication that the outdated and disastrously drafted 1989 Telecommunications Ordinance will be updated.



Screenshot of Chief Islander James Glass taking part in the on-line JMC planning meeting using the new Starlink system for the first time

The Tristan News website <https://www.tristandc.com/government/news-2024-09-22-starlink.php> reported this week, Tristan da Cunha's new high-speed internet link faced an early test on 18th September, when Chief Islander James Glass joined a high-level meeting of elected leaders from across the UK Overseas Territories - and it passed with flying colours.

The Starlink satellite service enabled James Glass to connect via video call with leaders spread across the South Atlantic, Caribbean, Pacific and beyond. They met to agree priorities for the forthcoming Joint Ministerial Council, planned for November in London. James Glass raised key issues he aims to see included on the JMC agenda, including infrastructure, connectivity and healthcare.

Starlink offers an internet service which became the first and largest-ever satellite constellation in January 2020 and, as of April 2024, comprised more than 6,000 small satellites in orbit. High-speed broadband internet signals are transmitted between satellites orbiting the Earth and directly to small dish antennas installed at users' locations.

The Starlink website is already updated with a page headlined 'How do I order Starlink in Ascension Island or Tristan da

**WE DESERVE
BETTER**

MACS Shipping Closely Monitoring the 'Christmas Voyage'

MACS Shipping say they are aware of the importance of the arrival dates of the 'Christmas voyage' and are monitoring it closely. Concerns are raised there might be a repeat of last year when the Maria da Paz steamed into view on 19th December laden with cargo which was destined for the peak Christmas season.

The September ship's cargo will now arrive on Monday, the last day of September. When the UK cargo deadline for this ship had passed the scheduled arrival for the MV Karoline was 7th September. The delay is already having a knock-on effect for following voyages. Voyage 10 was due to arrive on 28th November and is highlighted by Richard James International as the 'Christmas Voyage'. Due to the delay to the September ship, this date has already slipped to 5th December on an updated MACS schedule dated 16th September. There is a possibility the Christmas Voyage may slip further into December. Even the 5th December will only allow about 10 shopping days to Christmas by the time the cargo from that ship is on shop shelves.

Marc Sohst, Logistics Manager for MACS Shipping in southern Africa responded to enquiries from the Independent with assurances that MACS shipping is "aware of the importance of the arrival dates of the "Christmas voyage" and are monitoring it closely." He added, "There are contingency plans that could be applied if the "Karoline" would lose further unexpected days, which at this point do not make it necessary to consider omitting a voyage to St Helena for schedule purposes."

ward." He is surely right. The inconvenience to customers and the cost to wholesalers and retailers of last year's Maria Da Paz fiasco is burned into the memory of many.

RELOCATION OF HALF TREE HOLLOW SUB-POST OFFICE TO MTB'S PICK N PAY

The Post and Customer Services Centre would like to inform customers who currently receive their mail via the Half Tree Hollow (HTH) Sub-Post Office, ANDY's Shop, that with effect from Tuesday, 01 October 2024, the HTH Sub-Post Office will be relocated to MTB's Pick N Pay, Clinic Drive, HTH.

We would like to thank you in advance of your co-operation.

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



SHG
26 September 2024



Karoline come home

The independent had enquired whether, because the schedule had slipped to the extent that missing out voyage 9, originally due on 31st October but now slipped to 7th November (with a possible further delay) and bringing forward voyage 10, which has already slipped a week to 5th December, might be a way to guarantee a punctual arrival of the Christmas voyage. MACS Shipping have assured us that, so far, cancelling a voyage to regain the original schedule will not be necessary.

Marc ended his response to the Independent with, "Without a doubt you also will be keeping an eye on the schedule and we are always open to discuss the developments going for-

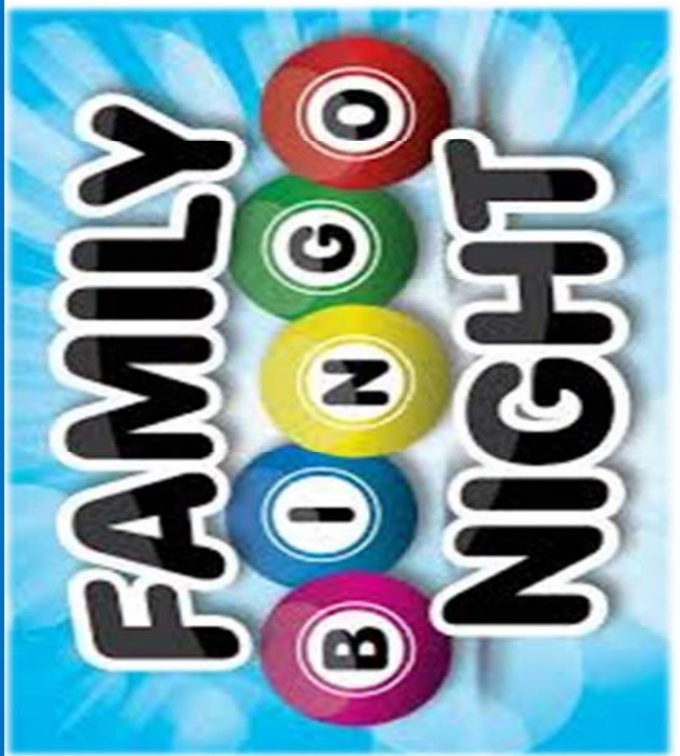


FUNDRAISER
 KINGSHURST
 COMMUNITY
 CENTER

FRIDAY 27th
 SEPTEMBER 2024
 @ 8pm

* Cash Bar
 * Hot Soup
 * Great prizes to be won

Do come along and support a worthy cause.



INVITATION TO TENDER

INSTALLATION OF RAILING SYSTEM ALONG THE HIGH RISK AREA OF THE JAMESTOWN RUN

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contracts:

CS-1884-SHG – Installation of Railing System along the High Risk Area of the Jamestown Run

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence at the Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown, by telephone on 25932 or via email through tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh.

A site visit to view the works will take place on Monday 30 September 2024 at 09:00, meeting at the Duke of Edinburgh Playground, Jamestown.

Contractors should note that site visits requested after this date will not be entertained unless there is a relevant reason why the contractor could not attend the scheduled site visit.

Should you require any further details, please contact the Procurement Officer.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Monday, 07 October 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.

SHG

24 September 2024



Vacancy

Part Time Cleaner

Salary for the post will be £7,224 per annum (£602 per month)



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a Part-Time Cleaner within the Bakery. Hours of work will be 30 hours per week.

As the Cleaner you will be responsible for carrying out an effective day to day cleaning program of the Bakery production equipment and facilities in order to meet the required health and hygiene standards and production targets.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be physically fit with the ability to undertake regular manual handling duties
- Have knowledge of Health & Safety, as well as Food Safety & Hygiene
- Be able to work independently and manage time effectively, with minimum supervision
- Be reliable, trustworthy and punctual with a flexible approach to work
- Demonstrate vigilance and excellent attention to detail, and take pride in their work
- Maintain total confidentiality within the Company
- Be able to meet deadlines in a fast paced environment

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

Miss Daryl Legg, General Manager (Production) via ☎ 22380 ✉ gm-productions@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 **Thursday, 10 October 2024**.

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

- ◆ Pension Contributions
- ◆ Attractive Leave Packages including annual leave, sickness absence leave, maternity/parental leave
- ◆ Staff Discounts



In the picturesque island of St. Helena, where community and family values are deeply ingrained, managing children's behavior can be a significant challenge for many parents. Traditional methods often rely on yelling, threats, and consequences, but research, as highlighted in Dr. Laura Markham's book *"Peaceful Parent, Happy Kids,"* suggests that these approaches can actually exacerbate misbehaviour. So, what can parents do to guide their children in a more positive and effective way?



The Problem with Punishment

Punishment, whether it be time-outs, spankings, or withholding privileges, may seem like a quick fix to immediate behavioural issues, but it comes with long-term drawbacks. According to Dr. Markham, a clinical psychologist specializing in child development and parenting, punishment can damage the parent-child relationship, lower self-esteem, and even increase the very behaviors parents are trying to eliminate.

Dr. Markham emphasizes the importance of building a strong emotional connection between parents and children, citing research on brain development to support this idea. By promoting a secure attachment, children are more likely to feel safe, explore confidently, and develop emotional intelligence.

The first step in Dr. Markham's approach is for parents to regulate their emotions, setting a positive example for their children. Using a Three-Minute Process to Shift Yourself from Upset to Peace, parents can respond calmly to situations and manage anger and frustration effectively.

To foster connection, Dr. Markham recommends spending dedicated Special Time with your child, giving them 100% of your attention. This strengthens the bond between parent and child, making the child feel valued and understood. Rather than controlling or punishing, Dr. Markham advocates for coaching children with empathy and clear communication, helping them understand their behavior and make better choices in the future.

Practical Tools for St. Helena Parents

For parents in St. Helena, implementing these strategies can be particularly beneficial given the close-knit community and the importance of family relationships.

- **Use Positive Language:** When your child misbehaves, use positive language to redirect them. Instead of saying "don't do that," say "let's do this instead."
- **Practice Empathy:** When your child is upset, acknowledge their feelings. For instance, "I can see you're really upset right now."
- **Set Clear Limits:** Establish clear rules and expectations, but do so in a way that is supportive and explanatory. For example, "We don't throw toys because it can hurt someone."
- **Encourage Communication:** Create opportunities for your child to express their feelings and needs. This can be during daily routines like mealtimes or bedtime.

Community Support

Changing parenting habits is not something that has to be done in isolation. The community in St. Helena can play a significant role in supporting parents who are adopting these new strategies.

- **Parenting Groups:** Local parenting groups can organize workshops and discussions based on Dr. Markham's book. These sessions can provide a platform for parents to share their experiences and learn from each other.
- **School Involvement:** Schools can incorporate Dr. Markham's principles into their parenting classes or workshops, ensuring that parents and teachers are aligned in their approach to child behavior.
- **Community Events:** Organizing community events that promote positive parenting can help spread the message and provide practical tools for parents to use.

Changing your child's behavior without resorting to yelling, threats, or consequences is not only possible but also highly effective. By focusing on emotional connection, regulating your own emotions, and coaching your child, you can create a more harmonious and supportive family environment. For parents in St. Helena, embracing Dr. Laura Markham's approach can lead to happier, more well-adjusted children and stronger family bonds. As Dr. Markham succinctly puts it, "Your child is acting like a child because he is one." By understanding and responding to this reality with empathy and guidance, parents can raise children who are not just well-behaved but also emotionally intelligent and happy.

Till Next Time, keep Well!

VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Credit Risk Officer

Commencing at £11,244 per annum

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person to fill the new and exciting position of a Credit Risk Officer.

The Credit Risk Officer will report to the Lending Services Manager and will be responsible for the Bank's loan portfolio compliance, lending credit risk identification, assessments and the recommendation of mitigating solutions.

The position will require the successful candidate to have the ability to analyse credit applications and evaluate the creditworthiness of applicants to ultimately determine risk. They should also have good business awareness in relation to what makes a business successful, be highly motivated, have a high level of accuracy and good organisational and time management skills.

In addition, the successful candidate must be flexible to work demands, and ideally have a qualification in Risk Management, Banking and/or Finance, or be willing to work towards one.

Candidates should also possess:

- GCSE's in Mathematics and English at Grade C or above;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Experience working in a customer service environment.

Interested persons can contact Mrs Isabel Winfield, Lending Services Manager, on (+290) 22390 or email lendingmanager@sainthelenabank.com 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, 04 October 2024.

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



BLUETOOTH ATTACKS

DON'T PAIR UP WITH A CRIMINAL

BLUEJACKING

When an attacker sends multiple spam or phishing messages, and at times even images or audio, to a Bluetooth-enabled device. This is usually done to try to steal personal information or install malware on your device. A popular variant of this attack is sending "shock" images, featuring disturbing or crude photos.

BLUEBUGGING

When a hacker pairs their device with a target device via Bluetooth, to install malware on it. This 'bugs' the device and gives them backdoor access. This allows them to 'spy' on a victim and gives complete control of their device. e.g. making and listening to calls, reading and sending messages, and modifying or stealing contacts.

BLUESNARFING

A hacker steals information from a phone via Bluetooth. This can include e-mails, contact lists, calendars, photos or any other info. Hackers usually must be within 10 metres of a device to perform this attack, but if they use specialised equipment, they may reach a device from further away. This is known as "bluesniping".

BLUESNIPING

BlueSniping is effectively the same as BlueSnarfing where criminals aim to steal your personal information via Bluetooth. However this attack is used to increase the range of BlueSnarfing attacks to up to a mile away. This is done using specialised hardware called a BluSniper Gun.



DESCRIPTION

Bluetooth is a wireless technology that uses a radio frequency to share data over a short distance, eliminating the need for wires. You can use Bluetooth on your mobile device to share files or to connect with other Bluetooth-enabled devices. Sadly cyber criminals have exploited Bluetooth to steal information, send unwanted messages or even take complete control of your device via various Bluetooth attacks.

STOP BLUETOOTH ATTACKS



Turn off your Bluetooth. Keep Bluetooth turned off if you aren't using it. This will prevent anyone trying to connect to your device in order to steal your data etc.



Don't open files received via Bluetooth from unknown sources. Opening such files could infect your device with malware.



Keep all your devices up-to-date. If there's a security update/patch for your device, download and install it as soon as possible to keep your device safe.



Don't pair with unknown devices. Never accept a Bluetooth pairing request from a device you don't recognise - it could be a cyber criminal.



St Helena
Government

CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN 2024





ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

Post Office Assistant (two posts)

Total package value up to £18,254.00 pa

(comprising salary up of 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/

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



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

IT Development Project Administrative Assistant

3-month fixed term contract (with possibility of extension)

**Total package value per annum of £16,528 paid monthly pro rata
(comprising salary of up to £9,450 pa plus accommodation, food allowance and other allowances and benefits)**

About the role

We're looking for a self-motivated individual to work as part of the Administrator's Office to support an IT development project to increase efficient utilization of the government's IT system.

What you'll do

The IT Development Project Administrative Assistant role will support this objective by:

- Engaging with on Island organisations, to identify efficiencies and co-operation to make best use of AIG's IT service provision.
- Maintaining organised and accurate records of IT assets and support the development of options that improve the operations efficiency of IT access and use across AIG.
- Administering and coordinating the procurement of IT and telecommunications hardware services with suppliers.
- Contributing to the development and implementation of options that meet the changing IT and tele -communications needs of the AIG.
- Secretary to the IT Project Board with responsibility for taking meeting notes and maintaining an up to date action log.
- Assisting the Policy and Communications Officer with internal and public communications in relation to the development of the AIG's future IT strategy.
- Other tasks, as required or assigned by the IT Project Board or line management.

What you'll bring

The successful candidate will be required to display the following qualities and skills: attention to detail and ability to work at pace, strong interpersonal and organisational skills, Clear and accurate written and oral communications, ability to prioritise and both in a team or independently on multiple tasks.

Some or all of the following will also be required: familiarity with Microsoft Office (including Outlook, Word, Excel and PowerPoint), organisational skills, accurate record keeping skills, a full Ascension Island Driving license, experience of working in a Government or administrative environment.

What we offer

In addition to a pro rata payment for 3 months of an annual salary of up to £9,450 (taxable on Ascension), the role also has 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) paid pro-rata.
- An electricity allowance paid in kind worth £938 pa
- A single status water allowance worth paid in kind worth £1,360 pa
- Paid leave earned at 2.5 days a month and public holidays
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free travel insurance

The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- A basic Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance

For more information, a full job description, or to apply with a CV and letter of motivation please email recruitment@ascension.gov.ac Closing date for applications 6 October 2024.

Join us!

We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Casual Workers – Social Care (Rate of Pay: £4.37 per hour)

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 (at CCC) Tel: 23090
Nicole Hercules (at Piccolo Hill) Tel: 25936
Hannah Herne (at Sheltered Housing) Tel: 25798
Kelly Hopkins (at Ebony View) Tel: 23343
Annabel Phillips (Children Residential Home) Tel: 24386

Deputy Community Care Centre Residential Manager (£15,033 per annum)

Social Care is seeking to recruit a Deputy Community Care Centre Residential Manager (D-CCCRM). Working with the Community Care Centre Residential Manager, the D-CCCRM will ensure residents' care and wellbeing is at the heart of everything done at the CCC and that the level of care offered goes beyond just professional standards and statutory, regulatory and legal requirements. This is an opportunity for an individual, who can think creatively, enjoys developing skills and practice within others, and is able to develop ideas. We are looking for a passionate and caring individual with good interpersonal skills and experience of practice in a social care setting with older people. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Martin Greenhalgh
Email: martin.greenhalgh@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing Date: 30 September 2024

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
Closing Date: 30 September 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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

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

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

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

Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Independent Living Support Worker (Piccolo Hill) (6 month Fixed Term - £7,960 per annum pro rata)

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. Why not contact us for further information about the duties of the role.

Enquiries: **Nicole Hercules on Tel No: 25936 or Email**
piccolo.hill@helanta.co.sh

Closing Date: **07 October 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.

Please contact us for further information and a copy of the full job profile.

Enquiries: **Damian Burns on Damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh**

Closing date: **14 October 2024**

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.

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**

Social Care Officer (Adults Services)
(£13,344 per annum)

The Health & Social Care Portfolio is seeking an individual to join the Adult Service team. As the Social Care Officer you will need to be able to recognise and respond to issues of mental capacity and safeguarding, as well as to promote the independence, provide meaningful support and to safeguard vulnerable people within our community.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Angela Bevan on 22920 or Email
angela.bevan@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing Date: 14 October 2024

Humanities/English Teacher (Permanent)
(£11,520 - £18,902 per annum)
depending on qualifications & experience

Are you interested in working with young people and want to be a part of shaping their future? Then join the team and become an English/Humanities teacher in PAS. You will be responsible for planning, preparing and effectively delivering programmes of study in the specific subject(s) to a designated class(es) to cater for all abilities of students. You must have the required qualifications, be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, have good communication skills and be able to interact with students, parents and colleagues. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Isabel Andrews on Tel No. 24290 or Email
isabel.andrews@sainthelena.edu.sh

Closing date: 01 October 2024

Auxiliary Worker – Pilling Primary
(1 Year Fixed Term - £7,280 per annum)

You will be responsible for the supervision of pupils during break and lunch including conducting the duties of a Lollipop person before and after school and supervising nursery pupils being transported home at mid-day. You will deputise in the absence of the School Secretary including reception and conduct clerical duties as required. You will also assist staff with tasks such as, cleaning and preparing lesson resources, preparing wallboards for display work, general tidying of lesson resources and any other similar auxiliary duties that the Head Teacher of the school may require from time to time. Basic IT skills are essential for this role. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Elaine Benjamin on Tel No. 22540 or Email
elaine.benjamin@primary.edu.sh

Closing date: 01 October 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

Healthcare Assistant (£7,960 per annum)

The Health and Social Care Portfolio is looking to recruit an individual who are highly motivated with a caring and empathetic nature to support our Nursing team in providing direct patient care in a highly pressured working environment. It is essential that individuals have good verbal and written communication and have excellent attention to detail and accuracy. The role involves assisting nursing staff with out of hour's nurse-led emergency care (evenings, nights and weekends) for patients attending hospital or contacting via telephone, as well as assisting nurses as part of the ambulance team when called out of the hospital for emergencies. This role involve unsocial hours e.g. shift work – weekends, night duty and public holidays.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Marilyn Essex on 22500 or Email**
marilyn.essex@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing Date: **09 October 2024**

Assistant Gardner (£7,280 per annum)

Central Support Services has an exciting opportunity for an enthusiastic individual to fill the role of Assistant Gardner. The Assistant Gardener will assist the Head Gardener with the day to day upkeep of Plantation kitchen gardens and the production of a variety of vegetables to supply Plantation House with fresh vegetables all year round.

Contact us for more information a discussion.

Enquiries: **Debbie Yon on Tel No. 24453 or Email**
ph.resmanager@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: **09 October 2024**

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

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St Helena
Government

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Email: martin.greenhalgh@sainthelena.gov.sh

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kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.gov.sh

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ROYAL ST HELENA POLICE SERVICE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE - REMINDER ON LICENSE RENEWALS

The Royal St Helena Police (RSHP) Service and the Customer Service Centre (CSC) are working together to ensure public safety and compliance with licensing regulations. Together, the RSHP and CSC wish to remind the community of their responsibility to ensure that all licenses are renewed promptly.

Effective immediately, the CSC will no longer provide reminders of renewal dates for the following licenses:

- Driver's License
- Vehicle License
- Dog License
- Firearms License



It is the sole responsibility of the license holder to keep track of expiration dates and renew their licenses accordingly. Failure to renew licenses and subsequent offenses will be investigated and addressed accordingly and may result in penalties and legal consequences.

The RSHP Service urges the community to ensure the following:

- All drivers must possess a valid driver's license that corresponds to the type of vehicle they are operating.
- Vehicles must be registered and have a valid vehicle license. Additionally, vehicles should be maintained in a safe and roadworthy condition and comply with all relevant regulations.
- All vehicle owners must have valid insurance coverage. This ensures that both the vehicle and any drivers using the vehicle are protected in case of accidents or incidents.
- Firearms must be licensed and used only within the specified conditions.
- Dogs must be licensed as required by local regulations.

For more information or to renew your licenses, please contact the Customer Service Centre by telephone on 22008 or visit the Customer Services Centre, Post Office Building, Main Street, Jamestown.

#StHelena #CustomerServiceCentre #RSHP #LicenseRenewals

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INVITATION TO TENDER Lobster Potting And Biological Sampling

St Helena Government would like to invite suitably experienced contractors to submit tenders for the following contract:

ENRP14-2024/25 - Lobster Potting Surveys within St Helena's Inshore Waters

ENRP15-2024/25 – Collect Yellowfin and Skipjack Tuna for Age and Growth Biological Sampling

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown by telephone on 25932 or via email through tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Should you require any further details, please contact the Fisheries Science Programme Co-ordinator, Jake Letori, by telephone on 25966 or email .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Thursday 10 October 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

Interested parties should note that this opportunity is **not** being advertised overseas.



SHG

25 September 2024

BLUE MOON OR TWO MOONS?? (Contributed)

Get ready for a cosmic surprise this weekend - Earth is about to get a tiny second moon, according to scientists.

A small asteroid is going to be captured by Earth's gravitational pull and temporarily become a "mini-moon". This space visitor will be around from this Sunday September 29th for a couple of months before escaping from Earth's gravity again.

Sadly the second moon is going to be too small and dim to be seen, unless you have a professional telescope.

The asteroid was first spotted by NASA's Asteroid Terrestrial-Impact Last Alert System (ATLAS) on 7th August. Scientists worked out its trajectory and revealed that the asteroid, which they refer to as 2024 PT5, hails from the Arjuna asteroid belt, which contains rocks that follow an orbit quite similar to Earth's. Occasionally, some of these asteroids get relatively close, getting as near as 2.8 million miles (4.5 million km) from our planet.

According to the researchers involved in the study, if an asteroid like this is moving at a relatively slow speed of around 2,200mph (3,540km/h), Earth's gravitational field can exert a strong influence, enough to trap it temporarily. Which is exactly what's about to happen - starting this weekend, this small asteroid will spend about two months orbiting Earth.

The BBC has reported that the asteroid will enter orbit on the 29th of September and then is predicted to leave on 25th November. The report stated "It's not going to complete a full revolution of our planet, it's just going to kind of have its orbit altered, just twisted slightly by our own planet and then it'll continue on its merry way".

The asteroid is approximately 32ft (10m) long, which is tiny in comparison to Earth's moon, which has a diameter of approximately 3,474km. Because it is small and made of dull rock it will not be visible to people on earth even if they use binoculars or a home telescope. Professional telescopes will be able to pick it up.

Mini-moons have been spotted before, and it's thought many more are likely to have gone unnoticed. Some even come back for repeat visits, the 2022 NX1 asteroid became a mini-moon in 1981 and again in 2022. So don't worry if you miss this one - scientists predict 2024 PT5 will also return to Earth's orbit again in 2055.

This story highlights just how busy our solar system is and how much there is out there that has not yet been discovered because this asteroid was only discovered this year. There are hundreds of thousands of objects out there that have not been discovered and this event highlights the importance of researchers, scientists and astronomers being able to continually monitor the night sky. After all, if we were on a collision course with something bigger that could do some damage, it would help to have advance warning....!!



TREASURY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DELEGATION TRAVEL OVERSEAS

Minister for Treasury and Economic Development, Mark Brooks, Financial Secretary, Dax Richards, and Director of Economic Development, Damian Burns will depart St Helena on Saturday 28 September 2024.

Minister Brooks, Dax and Damian will be travelling to Gibraltar from 01 to 04 October 2024, to meet with officials from the Government of Gibraltar, Gibraltar Finance, Gibraltar International Bank, and the Gibraltar Financial Intelligence Unit. The purpose of the visit is to continue to explore joint working between St Helena and Gibraltar on a number of topics - including banking, financial services regulation and enforcement, and other areas of shared interest.

Joining the delegation will be Chair of the St Helena Financial Services Regulatory Authority, Chris Mead, and Chair of the Bank of St Helena, Michael Bird.

From 06 to 10 October, Minister Brooks and the Financial Secretary will be in Brussels attending the Green Overseas (GO) conference on Climate Finance. The GO conference will provide an opportunity for unlocking climate finance for Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT's) with the aim to contribute to the sustainable, resilient and inclusive development of the OCT's. For St Helena, particular focus will be on finding potential funding partners for the renewable energy project which is entering the final stages of the design and modelling work.

Damian will also represent St Helena at the Africa Financial Services Investment Conference (AFSIC) Investing in Africa Conference and Expo 2024, which will be taking place in London between 07 and 09 October 2024, accompanied by Head of Tourism, Matthew Joshua.

AFSIC provides a summit for countries to present their upcoming projects and investment opportunities to leading institutional investors, grow their network, and promote their product. This event will provide St Helena with a platform to connect with parties with significant interest in investment, business, and trade opportunities in the Africa region. Areas of focus for the team will be hospitality, digital infrastructure, high-value agriculture, and financial services. Damian will further use his time in London to meet with key stakeholders, including colleagues at the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office.

Minister Brooks and the Financial Secretary will return to St Helena on Saturday 12 October 2024. Damian will return on 02 November, following a period of annual leave.

In the Minister's absence, the responsibility for the Treasury and Economic Development Portfolios will be handed to Chief Minister Julie Thomas for any urgent issues. Minister Brookes can still be contactable by email on mark.brooks@sainthelena.gov.sh.

The trip is being funded through a combination of the EDF11

Programme, Financial Services and Company Registry Development Programme, and the Economic Development recurrent budget.

#StHelena #TreasuryandEconomicDevelopment #OverseasConferences

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SHG

25 September 2024

Tristan Government Taps into New Revenue Stream

An announcement from the Tristan government opens with, "There is an overwhelming international interest in visits to Tristan by journalists, authors, historians, scientists and film makers." What follows is new instructions aimed at journalist, historians, filmmakers and all the others who want to carry out what are called Special Projects on Tristan.

The instructions start with, "Those who intend to carry out Special Projects must declare their intention in writing when seeking project permission. A non-refundable application fee of £500 is charged when you are applying for permission to come to the Island for special projects. The Island Council will evaluate your application on merit and if its approved you will be charged a further once off Special Project Fee as determined by the Council on *pro-rata* basis per project, depending on duration and number of people."

The Tristan government require their own copy of the film, news article or whatever the result of the special project may be. The Tristan da Cunha Island Council has to give approval before general release.



A Spanish film crew working on Tristan in October 2023 for a series of bank adverts

The St Helena Research Institute has had a similar monitoring process in place since 2019

Climate Change, or The Climate Turned on its Head

Rainfall in the Sahara Desert was six times more than normal in early September. Oases appeared where normally they don't, while other areas turned to swamp. Green vegetation appeared in patches all over the place.

On the other side of the Atlantic, the weathermen were predicting an active hurricane season in the Caribbean. There would be between 15 and 25 named storms, said the US Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Mid-September is the peak of the hurricane season and the Caribbean is relieved to have had less than half that number.



Morocco and Algeria were hit by huge floods with a year's worth of rain falling in two days in some areas.

Caribbean hurricanes start with the monsoon rains in West Africa. The complex links between inter-connected weather patterns means any changes on one side of the world can affect the weather several thousand miles away. This has

happened this year, resulting in torrential rain over desert and calm air when hurricanes are normally expected.

One analysis of what has happened this year with air temperatures, moist air movements, rainfall, jet streams and much more, predicts the Sahara will continue to get wetter and the Caribbean winds become calmer in future years.

What we all want to know is how do changes like this affect the winds and low cloud on a Saturday afternoon out at Prosperous Bay. Answer us that someone 'cos we've got planes coming in – or not, as the case may be.

The Cost of UK University Education

It's the time of year when UK first-year students start a new independent life at a university. No Mum and Dad around, only other kids the same age. What could possibly go wrong? Well, an ever-increasing student loan could be it.

University education was, in living memory, free at the point of use. There was also a grant to cover accommodation and living costs. Then the UK decided to copy yet another bad idea from the United States and brought in direct charges. This brought in the student loan scheme and paying off the loan over years from earned income. Now, there is serious discussion about whether it pays to go to university. Will a university education earn a successful student more money in a better job in later life. There seems to be a growing opinion that the cost of a university education is often not worth it. Judged only on costs, it may not stack up in more than a few cases. But a university education does provide the basis for several important skills which continue to pay off for the rest of most students' lives.



AUDIT ST HELENA
External Auditors

VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT AUDITOR **Salary range £8,626 to £10,831 per annum**

Audit St Helena is seeking to recruit an Assistant Auditor to join their audit team.

The person will assist with financial and performance audits across the public sector and will support other business processes.

Prospective candidates are required to have good GCSE grades **or** Functional Skills Level 2 in English and Mathematics and be prepared to study for the ACCA Foundations in Accountancy programme.

Key skills for this position include efficiency in business processes, good communication skills, and an aptitude for figures. IT proficiency including Excel, Word and Outlook is also essential.

For further information, Job Profiles and Application Forms please contact Helene Williams by telephoning 22111 or emailing helene.v.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh. Completed application forms should be submitted by email or by hand to Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown, by no later than **Friday 18 October 2024**.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. St Helena Government reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

Tuition fees in England and Wales are £9,250. In Scotland tuition is still free, as long as the student is Scottish, otherwise it is £9,250. Tuition fees have not increased since 2017. If the fees increased with inflation, they would now be about £13,000.

The average annual student accommodation rent stood at £7,475 in 2023-24 according to one estimate. London would definitely be higher than that and other big cities too. Probably more like £10,000.

Students can also get maintenance loans, which are supposed to provide money for accommodation and living costs. One widely accepted calculation is the loan available will only cover accommodation costs; eating and washing is not included. Mum and Dad have to pay for food, transport, course materials and going out.

The loan repayment details are a minefield, depending on where the student lives and when the loan was taken out. One estimate is that a student can expect to leave university with a debt of around £45,000. That gives the kids a good start in life, for sure.

UK petrol and diesel prices falling at fastest rate this year

It costs UK motorists about £4 less to fill up the tank in a family car than it did just a month ago. That will be very welcome but the price they still pay for a litre of fuel is still shocking. Petrol is now around £1.36 a litre, down 7p from last month. Diesel is £1.41 a litre, also down 7p. In April, petrol cost £1.50 a litre and diesel £1.58. Anyway, if fuel prices are going down in the UK, we should expect the same fairly soon.

UK Fuel duty was cut by 5p in March 2022, losing the government £2billion a year in revenue. One motoring organisation calculates this reduction was pocketed by the fuel companies; it was not passed on to motorists. As far as the motoring organisation is concerned, the government might as well put the 5p duty back on, to help feed the financial black hole they repeatedly say they found when taking over in July.

Floods in Britain: The System that Should Protect is a Scandal

George Monbiot is an excellent UK journalist who specialises in environmental issues. His most recent contribution about UK environmental issues is to draw our attention to the hopeless way flood control is managed in Britain. It's a feudal set-up dominated by rural landowners. Flood control is 'managed' by 112 Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs). They were set up 70 years ago and remain the same as they always were – probably with the original board members.

To IDB members, flood control seems to mean flood protection for agricultural land and making sure the rainfall flows as quick as possible out of the drainage board's area. On the lower ground outside their drainage area are the towns and cities. Mr Monbiot explains, effective flood management means slowing the water flow by holding back water where it

does the least harm, and releasing it gradually. In some cases (such as the Somerset Levels) the most effective option would be to stop draining and farming the land altogether, and allow it to revert to marsh, greatly reducing costs while restoring wildlife habitats. This is what the Netherlands has done, to great effect, with its Room for the River programme. But the IDBs tend to prioritise their historical function, draining farmland, above all else.



London underprepared for 'lethal' climate change risks
Unbelievably, but it seems typically, the boards that oversee the national parks (similar to our National Conservation Areas) are equally useless for the purpose intended. A recently published article begins - The boards that oversee England's national parks are bloated, dominated by men and are severely lacking in diversity. The analysis also found that farmers outnumber conservation experts by two to one, nature is rarely on the agenda at board meetings and only one national park can account for the ownership of all the land it covers. The result is that national parks are in a worse environmental condition than the rural areas surrounding them. One campaigner for change said, "The state of nature in national parks is an embarrassment in many ways on a world stage. The UK has only half of its biodiversity left, putting it in the bottom 10% of the world's countries."



Hurry up, there's a lot to do

MINISTER MARTIN HENRY TO ATTEND BLUE PLANET ALLIANCE CONFERENCE IN HAWAII

Minister for Health and Social Care, Martin Henry, will be off island for an overseas visit from Saturday, 28 September to Saturday, 19 October 2024. A key highlight of this trip will be his attendance at the Blue Planet Alliance (BPA) conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, from Sunday, 6 to Friday, 11 October.

The invitation to the BPA conference stems from a professional relationship Minister Henry formed with Senior Director at BPA, Amanda Ellis, during a previous Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference (CPC) visit to Ghana. Amanda, shared a common vision with Minister Henry regarding health, the environment, and the transition to renewable energy.

The week-long BPA conference will offer island leaders from around the world the opportunity to learn from experts and share experiences in the pursuit of a 100% renewable energy future. The conference and all associated travel expenses will be fully covered for participating delegates by the BPA. St Helena will be represented by a delegation comprising Minister Henry, Janet Lawrence (CEO of Connect), David de Casseres (from the St Helena Utilities Regulatory Authority),

and Helena Bennett (from the National Trust).

Minister Henry's participation in the conference is in line with SHG's priorities of developing renewable energy and water security plans. These plans aim to protect the environment while ensuring affordable access to essential resources. Minister Henry's visit to the Blue Planet Alliance conference is a significant step towards St Helena's commitment to a sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

While off island, Minister Henry will also be utilising his time in London after the conference to conduct government business with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). Minister Jeffrey Ellick will be responsible for the Health and Social Care Portfolio in Minister Henry's absence and can be contacted by email via jeffrey.ellick@sainthelena.gov.sh. #StHelena #RenewableEnergy #OverseasConferences <https://www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/> <https://twitter.com/StHelenaGovt> **SHG, 26 September 2024**



ROAD CLOSURE – JUNCTION AT STITCHES RIDGE TO THE ACCESS ROAD TO WRANGHAMS

The Highways Authority has given approval to close the road from the junction at Stitches Ridge to the access road to Wranghams on Tuesday 1 October 2024 from 09:00 to 15:00.

This closure is to enable the Roads Section to upgrade an underground drain near to the area locally known as 'Thorn Trees'.

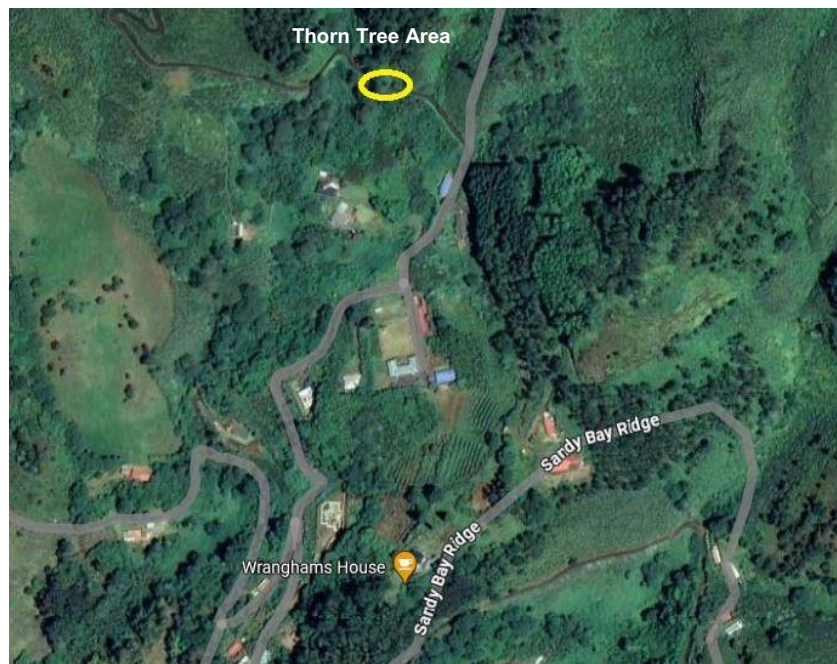
Signage will be in place and access to and from Sandy Bay will be via Milestone Junction and Levelwood. Emergency services will be granted access.

The Roads Section would like to thank the public in advance for their continued understanding and support.

SHG

23 September 2024

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FOOTBALL SNIPPETS....From the BBC

Liverpool consider summer move for Rodrygo, Manchester United to return for Jarrad Branthwaite and Chelsea are targeting Castello Lukeba.

Liverpool are ready to move for **Real Madrid** and Brazil winger Rodrygo, 23, if Egypt forward Mohamed Salah, 32, leaves Anfield at the end of the season.

Everton's prospective new owners the Friedkin Group want to bring in former Chelsea boss Maurizio Sarri, who left **Lazio** in March, as their new manager.

Juventus are hoping to extend the contract of Serbia striker Dusan Vlahovic, 24, until 2028 or 2029, although negotiations are reported to be at a standstill. Vlahovic has been linked recently with Arsenal.

Manchester United remain interested in **Everton's** Jarrad Branthwaite and will make another attempt to sign the 22-year-old England-capped defender in 2025.

Bayer Leverkusen's Netherlands right-back Jeremie Frimpong, 23, will be high on **Liverpool's** list to replace Trent Alexander-Arnold if the England international, 25, leaves the club.

Chelsea is targeting **RB Leipzig's** France centre-back Castello Lukeba, 21, as they aim to sign the world's best young players.

Bayer Leverkusen's Nigeria striker Victor Boniface, 23, is on **Chelsea's** shortlist for a new striker.

Barcelona see **Porto's** Portugal goalkeeper Diogo Costa, 25, as a long-term option to replace Germany goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen, 32.

Manchester United want to free up space in midfield and could let Denmark's Christian Eriksen and Brazil's Casemiro, both 32, leave in January.

In 2020, **Manchester United** offered 100m euros (£83.5m) to **Barcelona** for Spain forward Ansu Fati, who is now 21 and spent last season on loan with **Brighton**.

Bayer Leverkusen's 17-year-old German midfielder Francis Onyeka is being scouted by Chelsea.

Newcastle United have beaten **Real Madrid, Bayern Munich** and **Borussia Dortmund** to secure the services of **Dinamo Tbilisi's** 17-year-old Georgian forward Vakhtang Salia.



Rodrygo Silva de Goes, better known as Rodrygo, is a Brazilian professional footballer who plays as a right winger or forward for La Liga club Real Madrid and the Brazil national team. Considered one of the best wingers in the world, he is known for his speed, work-rate, dribbling, and finishing.

Premier League Fixtures this weekend....All times BST (one hour ahead of local time)

Saturday 28th September			
Newcastle United	12:30	Manchester City	
Arsenal	15:00	Leicester City	
Brentford	15:00	West Ham United	
Chelsea	15:00	Brighton & Hove Albion	
Everton	15:00	Crystal Palace	
Nottingham Forest	15:00	Fulham	
Wolverhampton Wanderers	17:30	Liverpool	
Sunday 29th September			
Ipswich Town	14:00	Aston Villa	
Manchester United	16:30	Tottenham Hotspur	
Monday 30th September			
AFC Bournemouth	20:00	Southampton	

From the St Helena Golf Club

Report by SHGC

Last weekend, on the 21st and 22nd of September, the highly anticipated Sponsored BOSH 36 Hole Stroke Play Competition took place. Despite challenging weather conditions characterized by wet and foggy circumstances, participants showcased impressive skills and resilience throughout the event.

Winners and Scores

The competition concluded with remarkable performances from the players. The overall winner was Tony Green, who achieved a total score of 139 points. Following closely behind was Reuben Oliphant, who finished as the runner-up with a score of 141 points. Jeff "Foxy" Stevens secured third place with a commendable score of 144 points.

Special Prizes In addition to the main competition results, several special prizes were awarded:

- **Ladies Longest Drive:** Helena Stevens
- **Men's Longest Drive:** Bramwell Bushuru
- **Nearest the Pin (Ladies) on the 16th Green:** Laura Buckley
- **Nearest the Pin (Men) on the 5th Green:** Eddy Bowers

Three competitors deserve special recognition for their outstanding performances:

1. **Laura Buckley:** As our newest club member, she made a significant impact during her first tournament.
2. **Gerald George:** Our longest-serving player demonstrated his experience by scoring a well-deserved total of 151 points.
3. **Neil Joe Joshua:** He excelled with an impressive net score of 65.

Acknowledgments

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the Bank of Saint Helena for



sponsoring this fantastic event. Additionally, we extend our gratitude to Zedella Young for presenting the prizes to all winners.

Only two "twos" were recorded during this competition; both Tony Green and Neil Joshua shared in this achievement and enjoyed a portion of the prize pool.

Congratulations to all participants who braved the elements over the weekend! Their dedication and sportsmanship contributed to making this event memorable despite less-than-ideal weather conditions.

Next Week the 29th September is the Monthly Medal competition. Enter your name on the signup sheet at the Club house or call 24421 / 25848 to leave a message.

Happy swinging.....!



ST. HELENA



GOLF CLUB