

INDEPENDENT

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Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle

House of Commons Clerk Visits the Island



Cliff Richards selected as Cricket Captain



Safety warning issued following the foundering of fishing vessel Argos Georgia with the loss of 13 lives

Jerry fighting fires on Ascension Island





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Speaker Lindsay Hoyle Sends House of Commons Clerk of Legislation to Advise Ministers and Councillors

House of Commons Speaker, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, who visited St Helena earlier this year, is a champion of the Overseas Territories. Sir Lindsay arranged for Liam Smythe, the House of Commons Clerk for Legislation to visit St Helena and take forward issues arising from discussions during Sir Lyndsay's visit.

Liam Smythe made clear the relationship between the House of Commons Speaker and the Speakers in the Overseas Territory legislatures is a continuing relationship based on Sir Lyndsay and his team offering assistance where it is requested.

Mr Smythe pointed out there is a St Helena general election next year and now is a good time to start reflecting and reviewing some aspects of St Helena's parliamentary system and relevant procedure. He said the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) is aware several Commonwealth parliaments consider their parliaments to be 'too much under the thumb' of the executive or ministerial branch of government.

Our own Speaker, Cyril Gunnel, said a CPA benchmark assessment of Legislative Council had concluded there was an insufficient separation of powers between the legislature and the executive. In particular, St Helena's clerk of councils should be independent and not employed by SHG. Also, there should be a Parliamentary Services Commission for St Helena.

Liam Smythe said St Helena suits a Westminster system of government but does not need a party political system. Councillors who are not either elected as chief minister or appointed as a minister by the chief minister should occupy a non-partisan position where all issues are judged on their merit.

Mr Smythe will produce a short report on his visit this month and send it to Ferdie Gunnell. It is intended the report will be made public.



Liam Laurence Smyth



position of house of commons clerks



The Royal Saint Helena Police are again seeking the assistance from members of the public in relation to yet another fail to stop road traffic collision.

During the afternoon hours of Friday 4th October 2024. It was

reported to the Royal St Helena Police Service that damage had been caused to a vehicle parked on Market Street in Jamestown.

If you are involved in an accident and fail to stop you commit an offence.

As a result, the wing mirror on the driver's side of the vehicle was severely broken. Members of the public are well aware of the expenses of sourcing car parts and repairs.

If anyone has any information in relation to this or any other incident you are encouraged to please contact The Royal St Helena Police Service at Coleman House on telephone 22626, email, Facebook, popping into the control room or stopping an Officer.

We thank the community for their continued support.



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[http: www.independent.sh](http://www.independent.sh)

Editorial

Benjamin Disraeli is said to be the person who coined the phrase “there are three types of lies: lies, damn lies and statistics”. There is some truth in that. If statistics are not handled with care from the moment the data is gathered, the results can be tragically wrong. Benjamin Disraeli, by the way, was a UK prime minister for six years from 1874. He was a no-nonsense type who was fond of sending gunboats to threaten the shores of countries that had caused him to be upset. With British naval power being what it was at that time, it usually got disagreeable countries to suddenly become more agreeable.

Anyway, it's statistics that I have in mind at the moment. Why? I'll tell you. There is a lot of talk these days that people are leaving St Helena in droves; by the planeload even. We all know people who have left or plan to leave, but exactly how many are leaving for greener pastures beyond the horizon. Do we have the statistics that can give us a reliable, accurate answer.

Every month now, arrival and departure figures are published. Figures published this week tell us that in August 203 people arrived and 258 people hopped on a plane out of here. Immediately there are desperate howls of despair, gnashing of teeth and despondency in every direction. But, has the population really reduced by 55 in one month? If we do lose that number of people every month, the last 55 people on this island will climb aboard the last plane out of here in six years' time. That's not going to happen, so something is wrong with the way the figures are presented or interpreted.

People arrive here for all sorts of reasons and stay for very different lengths of time. The same goes for people leaving. Some will have finished a contract and are going back home. A conference may have finished or there is a higher number of medical referrals than usual. This all means comparing arrivals and departures on a monthly basis is about as useful as a chocolate teapot. Comparing the difference between arrivals and departures one year with the next should be more reliable, even then the numbers have to be properly understood for any change in overall trends. Try this for size. Between September 2023 to August 2024 official figures tell us there were 4,338 departures. In the same period the number of arrivals was 4,334, a difference of just 4.

Word has it we can expect a useful number of major projects to start rolling in the next financial year. This is good because a major project means there is more cargo onboard the MV Karoline. We can all be happy with more freight being brought in because it means there should be a reduced risk of freight rates for ship cargo being increased. It can also mean there is useful chunk of money circulating around the island, giving the local economy a bit of a lift and put money into the pockets of Saints employed because of the project.

When looking for something in my ever-increasing computer files I came across something else which caught my eye. It was an assessment of the wider benefits to the island when a major project is underway. The assessment is five years

old but the kind of benefits that can be expected are equally true today. The project assessed was the Rockfall Projection Project. It was a project managed by an international contractor and a good number of people were brought in by the contractor for the project. Even so, the project created 26 jobs for the local workforce.

An assessment was made of how much money was spent in St Helena by the contractor's staff over the course of the 6-month project. Data was pulled in from various sources including a personal survey completed by the staff involved. The personal expenditure survey covered food, household goods and toiletries, as well as leisure activities, souvenirs and gifts for friends or family. The team reported spending approximately £160 – £210 each per week. This did not include cost of accommodation, car hire and other expenditure which were part of the project costs and assessed separately.

Personal expenditure was mostly on food and drink (71%) with cigarettes (13%), leisure activities (7%) and household goods (5%). Taxi fares took 0.3% of the total personal expenditure by the contractor's staff.

The accommodation of staff (18%), car hire (23%), mobile phone services (4%) and fuel (23%) were paid for directly from the project budget. This amounted to about £127,000 over the 6 months of the project. Other project expenses which went directly to the island economy included equipment purchases, land rental and local contracts. This was a further £60,000.

Overall, the estimate was the Rockfall Protection Project added between £255,000 and £273,000 directly to the island economy over the six-month contract period. The assessment concludes with, ‘these impacts will have a multiplier effect across the economy as retailers, accommodation providers, restaurant owners and tour operators spend the additional income on other goods and services on-Island. The average daily spending associated with this Project is similar to that of long-stay leisure visitors which suggests a comparable impact could be expected from future EDIP or other capital projects that require specialised expertise from international contractors.’

There is a chance things will liven up a bit next year. All major projects usually mean additional cargo is brought in and even if the projects due to start from next April do not involve international contractors bringing in their own staff an injection of some extra cash into the local economy can be expected and will be welcomed. And some local employment.

Lastly, on the subject of ship's cargo and the MV Karoline, the latest updated schedule published on Monday shows 9th November for the next arrival followed by 5th December for the last ship before Christmas. The December ship goes on to Ascension, due there on 10th December.

Happy Christmas!, Vince

Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle – and Since this is St Helena, Adapt and Innovate

The time-honoured mantra is to reduce the packaging first, because that means less waste going to landfill. Second, whenever you can, re-use anything that can be used again. Third and last is recycle, which is to process certain waste materials so they can be used again.

Reducing waste when manufacturers and suppliers design their packaging is not something SHG's Waste Management Services (WMS) can influence. Plastic water bottles are usually 100% recyclable but perfume is often in a very small bottle in packaging many times the size of the bottle. But re-using and recycling is something WMS does, with imagination and a touch of flair mixed with a good measure of ingenuity.

Finding ways to recycle, aluminium cans, glass jars, plastics of all sorts, cardboard and tin cans is not easy. All of these materials can be crushed and then baled or bagged to reduce the volume but uses have to be found for these materials on-island. The value of any of these recyclables as raw materials for reprocessing is overwhelmed by the cost of exporting them by ship to South Africa. At the moment, limited use has been found by island businesses for some of the materials. There has been private sector interest in crushed and baled aluminium, and in crushed glass for use in concrete mix. Building up the volume of waste which is re-used or recycled, depends very much on the number of people who use the recycling points to dispose of some of their waste. At the moment, people generally, have not got into the habit of recycling. The volume of waste diverted from landfill to recycling is steadily growing, but still small. That is about to change; more on that later.

First, what happens to the different materials tipped into the different coloured wheelie bins at recycling hubs across the Island? It's best to take them one at a time.

Compost

Compost has not been mentioned here, until now. It is different from the other materials mentioned because it is fully recycled. There is also a big slice of re-use in setting up the composting process to keep costs low. The raw materials are collected, processed into compost and sold locally. Pig-gery waste, fish waste and green waste (the smaller branches and brushwood from trees) are collected. Green waste is put through the chipper at Horse Point. All three ingredients are blended and composted at the lowest level of the landfill site. Water is needed to keep the composting process going. The water is supplied entirely from rain falling on the roof of the recycling centre building. It is collected in a 54,000 litre capacity tank (itself originally destined for landfill) but now located next to the building. From there it passes through an underground pipe to an 18,000 litre tank positioned in the 'rim' of the bowl-shaped area of the landfill where the composting is done. Another pipe from the smaller tank takes the water down to the composting area. The Landfill Manager, Patrick Crowie, and his team installed the tanks laid the water pipes themselves.

When the composting process is complete, the unrefined compost is taken to the recycling centre – the large grey building alongside the track to Horse Point. The unrefined compost is processed. This part of the story is remarkable in itself. Originally, Patrick Crowie and his team sieved the unrefined compost manually, using the protective covers taken from large fans found in the landfill. This was slow, back-breaking work. Something had to be done, and Patrick did. He made a long rotating drum using fine metal mesh to sieve the compost. The drum is set in a frame so it slopes horizontally. Unrefined compost is loaded at the top end. Gradually the compost falls to the lower end as the drum is rotated. The finer particles fall from the drum and are collected below. At first, the drum was rotated manually using the handle of a paint roller. Eager to improve matters, Patrick's eagle eye caught sight of an electric motor someone had brought to the dump. This was perfect to power the rotation of the drum. All the materials needed for sieving the unrefined compost were found at the dump.

Another snag was the larger particles of unrefined compost would fall from the lower end of the rotating drum and then be carried back to the higher end to go through the process again, and again. As the higher end of the drum is about 5 feet high, the continuous sieving of the unrefined compost until it all eventually breaks down to a powdery composition became arduous after a while. Patrick went 'shopping' again in the dump's bulky waste cell and arrived back with a metal bedframe, two empty cylindrical fire extinguishers and a range of other unlikely discarded items from which he made into a conveyor belt, also set in a frame. The conveyor belt too, was designed to slope. Horse Point staff could now shovel the unrefined compost into the collecting tray at the lower end of the mechanised conveyor belt. The conveyor belt carries the compost to the high end and tips it into the collecting tray at the high end of the rotating sieve. All of this made the process much quicker and saved long sessions of hard labour. Batches of compost are now sieved in three days. Before, it would take three weeks. After Patrick's ingenuity designing and making these two pieces of machinery, the only thing needed to be bought was four ball-bearings.

The final state of the compost is a dry powder. Following the 're-use' rule, the compost is loaded into used pig meal bags. These bags of compost have been available at Horse Point for some time, at £5 for an 80-litre bag. So far, about 1,000 bags of compost have been sold at this attractive price. If you want to order locally processed compost that's fine, but there is usually a waiting list which means about one month's wait at the moment.

WMS have partnered with the St Helena National Trust for packaging and selling compost. There will be a change soon. The National Trust will takeover refining the compost when it is brought to the recycling centre. The sieved compost will then be transported to the Millennium Forest. Local compost will be bagged and sold from there. Revenue from sales

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Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle – and Since this is St Helena, Adapt and Innovate

Continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

all goes to the Trust. This partnership means WMS will not be competing with the private sector for the supply of compost and they're supporting a non-Government organisation.

Cardboard and Plastic



Plastic being loaded into the crusher

Cardboard and plastic are crushed and baled. There is no market right now for either material so an alternative use had been found for them. First, crushing and baling reduces the volume of the waste considerably.



Crushed and baled cans delivered from the crusher

Everything about recycling and re-using is aimed at reducing the volume of waste that goes to landfill and extending the life of the site for as long as possible. The large cell, or pit, where all landfill waste is now tipped will be full in about three years. When it is, there is space for another large cell alongside the present one but that will be the last. There is no room left to excavate any further cells. Another significant area of adaptation and innovation is, if you can't excavate, build higher. This is where the bales of crushed cardboard and plastic come into use. Another important consideration is that soil or dirt of any kind is in short supply at Horse Point Landfill; this will be an increasing problem when there are no new excavations to produce a new supply.

People familiar with Horse Point Landfill will know the public

recycling area where the usual materials plus white goods, batteries, textiles and tyres can be disposed of. Beyond that area is low-lying land which is gradually being built up in terraces. It will be built up until it is level with the public recycling area. This is being done by using the baled cardboard and plastic like Lego bricks to create walls (known as bunds) to house bulky waste. The baled cardboard and plastic is then covered with soil. Burying cardboard and plastic! I hear you say. That's right. Soil is in very short supply, land at Horse Point is in short supply, the option to build up to maximise the vacant air space above the ground is now being engineered as digging down to bury waste is a vanishing option. Crushing cardboard and plastic considerably reduces the volume of this type of waste. All waste is 'sealed' with soil. Using bales of crushed plastic and cardboard to build up to the final level disposes of more waste and uses less soil. Another touch of ingenuity.

After the final level has been reached, there is another area within the landfill boundary that can be terraced in a similar way. This build up phase is aimed at bulky waste. It will also be possible to build domestic waste upwards by creating more bunds and mounding on the flat areas already formed. By building up further, the working life of Horse Point Landfill will be extended further. In conjunction with plans to extend recycling collections the Horse Point Landfill Site could be extended by 15 or more years. Building the new prison will involve extensive earthworks. It has been arranged to transport the spoil to Horse Point Landfill Site to resolve the anticipated soil shortage problem.



A larger machine produces larger bales of cardboard. Cans can also be crushed in the same machine.

Aluminium

The recycling centre has a machine that sorts aluminium from tin cans. Aluminium has a higher value. Last year, private sector partnership meant bales of crushed aluminium were exported. It was a one-off, but demonstrated exporting recyclable waste can be viable. It is hoped the same will happen again this year. Baled aluminium is stored at the Horse Point Recycling Centre in anticipation a further export is possible.

Waste Management Services will partner with any other or-

Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle – and Since this is St Helena, Adapt and Innovate

ganisation or individual to meet any demand there is for recycled or re-used materials.

Glass

Glass has been crushed and re-used in the mix for concrete making. This too, had private sector involvement. The need was identified for the glass to be crushed finer. Waste Management Services will soon take delivery of a glass grit recycling plant which is capable of crushing to <5mm particles. The intention is to crush all glass that is diverted from landfill to recycling by householders and businesses who put all glass products in the recycling bins. After crushing it, WMS will be able to provide SHG with a sand type product to meet Public Service needs as well as any interested organisations or individuals requiring glass sand. Its expected the Roads Section certainly could save money by making use of it.

The Big Step Forward

Plans are well advanced to provide households with a 120-litre wheelie bin for recyclable waste only. The usual wheelie bin is twice the capacity of the recyclable waste bin. Cans, plastics and paper/cardboard will be put into the same bin. This will not include glass or other recyclable waste in the first instance. Sorting will be done at the Horse Point Recycling Centre. Introducing household collection of recyclable waste always results in increased public participation in separate disposal of recyclables. It is, after all, the most convenient way to recycle. WMS will soon have all the machines required to process the usual recyclable materials. They will be well placed to process the expected extra volume of recyclable waste. The introduction of a household recyclable waste collection service is seen as a big step forward in maximising the remaining useful life of Horse Point Landfill because a larger proportion of waste will be diverted from landfill.

National Trust Exploring Recycling Opportunities for St Helena

The National Trust is just starting an investigation into the latest developments in recycling and how St Helena may benefit from them. In a wide-ranging appraisal in partnership with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), the investigation will look at recent technological innovations as well as how other similar remote islands have faced the familiar problems of remoteness, small population and small volumes both for processing and for sale.

The investigation is going ahead in close co-operation with Waste Management Services. Environmental Risk Manager, Mike Durnford, has responsibility for waste management policy and operations development. He and his team are keen to find ways to reduce the overall cost of waste collections and disposal. Identifying opportunities for businesses and other organisations to benefit from recycled products will also form part of the work.

As well as working in partnership with a well-established



The larger crushing machine

overseas organisation, attention will be given to what other islands and overseas organisations are doing. Already under consideration is gathering the required detail on how the Chagos Islands collect, process and dispose of their plastic waste. Like St Helena, the Chagos Islands has a big problem with ocean borne plastic waste washing up in their beaches. ZSL have recently completed a plastic pollution project on turtle nesting beaches at Diego Garcia. Also involved in that correlated project were Protomax Plastics Ltd, the British Indian Ocean Territory Administration and Plymouth University. Networking does add value.



Patrick's compost machines made from waste materials

Debate on Chagos Islands by UK Politicians a Mixture of Pantomime and Farce.

For one faction in British politics, the UK handing the Chagos Islands (apart from the largest island, Diego Garcia) to Mauritius has been criticised as a 'surrender' or 'hands power to the Chinese' and there have also been some claims that British subjects have been mistreated because of the agreement between Mauritius and the UK. All of this noise has been created by newspapers whose political leanings are definitely right of centre and, among politicians themselves, mostly by leadership candidates jockeying for position in the Conservative leadership election.

The 'surrender' of the Chagos Islands happened in the 1960s when the largest island, Diego Garcia, was handed over to the US military. Britain 'governs' the territory from London and the US military appear very much to decide who can enter the one remaining inhabited island.

Handing power to the Chinese is a claim that defies logic. The US military base will remain with no change. Why the Chinese should suddenly find it easier to show their naval strength is difficult to understand. Also, Mauritius and Eswatini are the only former African British colonies which are not under the influence of China's massive overseas development funding programme. Why start jumping up and down in dismay about Mauritius and not about a long string of other former colonial countries who are increasingly under China's thumb?

Comments about mistreatment of British subjects also defies comprehension. All mistreatment happened in the late 1960s, early 1970s with all British governments, of what ever colour, fighting almost continuously in the courts ever since to keep these recent and suddenly valued British subjects thousands of miles from their homeland. When the Chagossians were expelled from their homeland, an extract from a government memo is often quoted. The respect and legal status accorded to the Chagossians was reduced to a description of them as "some few Tarzans and Man Fridays whose origins are obscure". A comment that vies with what comes out of Donald Trump's mouth from his bizarre brain.



Chagossians herded on to boats and shipped off to Mauritius, the Seychelles, maybe Britain.

There are several other reasons given opposing the UK-Mauritius Agreement to transfer sovereignty to Mauritius and give

Chagossians the chance to return to the island of their birth – so long as it is not Diego Garcia. The main reason being the negotiations with Mauritius were started by the previous UK government two years ago. Some of those contesting for the Conservative party leadership were closely involved. The thinly disguised two-faced posturing does nothing to assure anyone these politicians are adequate enough to represent anyone, anywhere.

A Glimpse of the Most Secretive Island in the World

Much has been written about the Chagos Islands. Most of it about the main island, Diego Garcia. Really, we should say atoll, not island. The Chagos Islands are more than 60 atolls. All of them vulnerable to a rise in sea level. Diego Garcia has a high point not more than 30 feet above the level of high tide. There is lush vegetation and white-sand beaches, surrounded by crystal blue waters. But there is no tourism, despite having a 3,700-metre runway, 650 metres longer than Wideawake and 1,750 metres longer than St Helena's runway. Permission is needed to visit any of the Chagos Islands even though only Diego Garcia is used. It is strictly out of bounds to most civilians - the site of a highly secretive UK-US military base shrouded for decades in rumour and mystery.

The BBC gained unprecedented access to the island last month. For months, the BBC had fought for access to Diego Garcia, a British Overseas Territory which is administered from London. Most on-island personnel and resources are controlled by the United States who have a large military base there. Apart from the long runway, the lagoon can accommodate aircraft carriers. To enter the island you need a permit, only granted to people with connections to the military facility or to British officials.

The BBC's interest is in the detention on Diego Garcia of 60 Sri Lankans who had intended to take their boat to Canada to seek asylum. Engine failure in the middle of the Indian Ocean meant they had to seek shelter on Diego Garcia. That was in October 2021 – three years ago yesterday to be exact. Since then, the Sri Lankans have remained "stuck there" in a "desperate, dangerous limbo". They are forced to live in a "make-shift tented camp the size of a football pitch, surrounded by a 7ft-high metal fence". The restraints have had their effect on the Sri Lankans. Despite living contentedly together of their large fishing boat, they now fight each other, there are reports of suicide and the women among them have been sexually abused.

The BBC wanted to report on a historic court case being held over the treatment of Sri Lankan Tamils, the first people ever to file asylum claims on the island. Complex legal battles have been waged over their fate and a judgement will soon determine if they have been unlawfully detained.

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The St Helena National Trust's South Atlantic Plastics Project is pleased to announce the completion of our outreach initiatives with the community and local businesses, along with consultations with local actors on the outcomes our work looking into single-use plastics (SUPs).

Through mapping the plastic system, we have improved our understanding of the importation, use, waste disposal, waste management and littering of plastics on St Helena. We also identified seven possible opportunities for change within the plastic system that could promote a systemic shift toward a better relationship with plastics for the island.

The consultation work has enabled us to select four of those interventions which we are seeking to further develop, co-design and implement. These interventions feed into the key aims of "reducing importation of SUPs onto St Helena" and "improving waste management of SUPs", these are:

1. Determine the feasibility of introducing additional non-plastic or sustainable alternatives for select SUP items in partnership with cooperative retailers on St Helena, with a subsequent trial period in stores.
2. Work in partnership with Environmental Risk Management to conduct a renewed options assessment for management of recyclable materials.
3. Collaborate with Waste Management Services to promote public understanding of ethical waste disposal in St Helena to support active participation at the household level.
4. Work in partnership with Waste Management Services to change bin infrastructure in Rupert's Bay to help tackle littering around the BBQ areas.

The intervention work is scheduled to commence in the upcoming weeks and run through to the project's conclusion in March 2025. At this initial stage, the project welcomes feedback, as we want the project to be fundamentally guided by the voices and needs of our community. We invite you to share any thoughts or concerns with the Project team through the following communication lines:

Email

tobias.capel@trust.org.sh

Office drop-ins

Broadway House, Jamestown

Telephone

00-290-22569

Drop boxes (anonymous)

Available at Sandy Bay family store, Solomons, Thorpes and Phillip Johns

Equality & Human Rights Commission (anonymous)

Hotline: 00-290-22133, email: catherine@humanrightssthelenas.org, office drop-ins: Jamestown

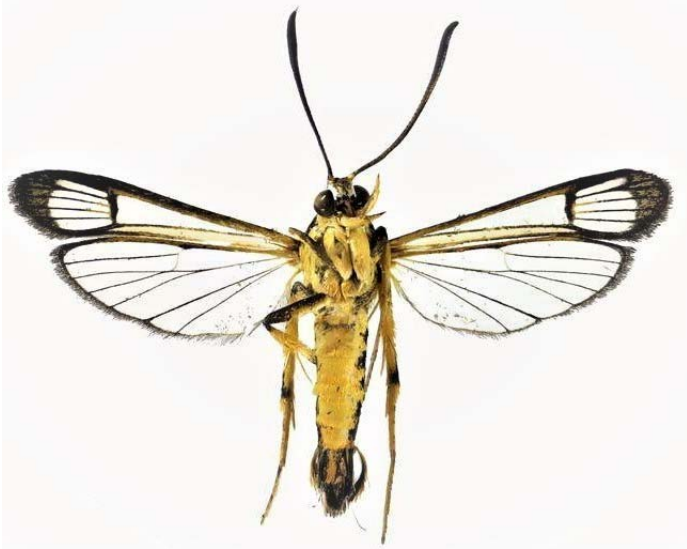
New Species of Moth Found 4,500 Miles from Home

Daisy Cadet is an ecologist and a photographer. She went on a trip to the tropical forests of Guyana. Her claim to fame is she found a moth which was previously unknown to science.

The St Helena National Trust report for last year includes the discovery of nine spiders whose existence was previously unknown. Finding one such spider brings visions of people crawling on their hands and knees in dense undergrowth, getting bitten, stung and spitting out bits of cobweb that get on their faces from time to time.

Daisy Cadet had no such trouble finding her moth. Her success is due to her not being thorough about cleaning her walking boots. From South America to Port Talbot in Wales, Daisy solved the dirty boots problem by putting them in her boot bag. Out of sight – out of mind. It seems the boots stayed in the bag even after she had covered the 4,500 miles back to Wales. Her first sight of the moth, two of them, was on a windowsill inside her home during the winter months. Both moths were not moving. One because the Welsh winter had killed the tropical moth, the other – probably because it was shivering in the cold.

Being an ecologist, Daisy knew it was an unusual moth and not a UK moth. It took months to find its identity.



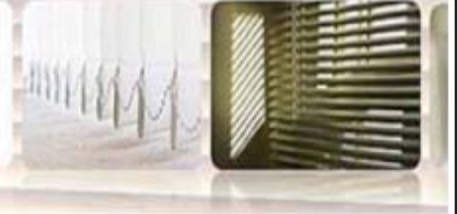
Named Carmenta brachyclados, the clearwing moth looks slightly like a wasp but without black body markings on its underside

When she finally got around to cleaning her walking boots, she found two delicate cocoon remains - protective coverings that insects create during their pupal stage of development. She had picked up the larvae by treading on it. It stuck to the mud on her boots and there it stayed, and survived.

A scientific associate at the Natural History Museum, said: "Clearwing moths are notoriously difficult to find, even by professional entomologists. "They are even more difficult to rear from larvae or pupae, which usually dry out or go mouldy within a few days of collection." He said the chances of two

clearwing moths from tropical jungles of South America "successfully emerging in south Wales, over three months after they arrived, in cold Welsh winter, and being preserved in good condition, is extraordinary. The improbability of this event defies rational explanation."

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ESTIMATES FOR HOUSE BUILDING.

Tristan Starlink Update

A highlight was being stopped in the street a few days ago by a somewhat emotional islander, who had been able to see her friends for the first time in years live on a video call.

Tristan News, <https://www.tristandc.com/news/index.php> give an update this week on the new superfast Starlink connection Tristanians now have. They are clearly blown away with the change it has made to their lives. More improvements are on the way for health, education and everyday lives.

Tristan announced the Starlink connection on 16th September. Actual broadband speeds achieve 300 megabits a second (Mbps). This speed can fluctuate depending on network usage. Initial testing has shown speeds up to 290Mbps. This is about 30 times faster than the speed Tristan had previously and seven times faster than St Helena gets on a good day.



Tristan's IT communications are housed in a converted container, called the Communications HQ. It was commissioned in May 2022 to accommodate the equipment used at the time. Tristan News reported the Starlink system is situated on the roof of the IT Container – quick, simple, cheap and effective.



The Starlink antenna on the roof of the communications container

There was concern on whether the antenna would withstand storm force winds which are common on Tristan. In recent weeks Tristan has experienced some strong winds and the antenna has held up well. The system has an operational rating of 50 mph but in practice has the capability to survive much stronger wind speeds. If thought necessary, it is quick and simple to remove the antenna when exceptionally strong

winds are expected. "We now have for the very first-time full resilience for telephony and internet services" the report says. Starlink automatically takes the most efficient connectivity route. Tristan uplinks are via Berlin. An unexpected result of this is German adverts interrupt audio links from time to time. This is shrugged off as a small price to pay for high-speed internet in the middle of the South Atlantic.

Michael Thorpe Case Adjourned Again

The shooting incident at the centre of the Michael Thorpe court case was adjourned this week to Wednesday 6th November. The case was due to be heard on Wednesday this week. This case first came to court in July and was adjourned then to a date in late September. At the first hearing, the charges brought against Mr Thorpe were the illegal use of a firearm and causing unnecessary suffering to a dog.

Arrivals and Departure Figures the Same for the Year

Provisional figures for arrivals and departures for August have been released. There were 203 arrivals with 178 arriving by air and 25 by sea. 53 arrivals in August were for leisure purposes, 24 of these were non-Saints.

Over the twelve months, September 2023 to August 2024, there were 4,334 arrivals – a 9.3% increase on the previous 12 months. The number of arrivals for leisure purposes in the same 12-month period was 1,981, a 10.1% increase on last year.

Care is required when comparing departures and arrival figures. People arrive and depart for different reasons and arrivals stay for widely different lengths of time. The most reliable comparison is over long periods. Between September 2023 to August 2024 there were 4,338 departures compared to 4,098 departures in the previous year. In the last 12 months there have been 4 more departures than arrivals – 4,334 arrivals and 4,338 departures.

UK Rock Solid with Gibraltar and Falklands

The agreement between UK and Mauritius on the handover of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius, apart from Diego Garcia, has led to scaremongering about the new UK government handing Gibraltar to the Spanish and the Falklands to the Argentinians. The agreement with Mauritius should result in a treaty which will bring to a close the most disreputable episode in recent times of Britain's handling of one of its Overseas Territories. Even to the most casual observer, the UK links with Gibraltar and the Falklands are very different. The uproar caused with the Trump-like accusations from political opponents and the UK right-wing press meant the UK foreign secretary had to make clear the sovereignty of Gibraltar and the Falklands was "not up for negotiation".

Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, told the House of Commons that advisory opinion from international courts were against the UK's handling of the Chagos Islands and the UK position was increasingly unsustainable. A binding, rather than advisory, judgement against the UK was only a matter of time. Lammy explained to MPs, if the UK had not negotiated an agreement with Mauritius the future of the military base on Diego Garcia was threatened together with international security the military base helped to preserve.



DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 13th October 2024 – Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Harvest	St Martin
11.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Andrew
5.00 p.m.	Choral Evensong	Cathedral

The Parish of St James

Sunday 13th October 2024 – Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St John
Thursday 17th October		
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John

The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 13th October 2024 – Twenty Eighth Sunday of the Year		
11.15 a.m.	Family Eucharist/Harvest Festival/Parade	St Mark
Tuesday 15th October		
7.00 p.m.	Reserved Sacrament	St Mark

**The Anglican Diocese
Of St Helena**



**EXTENSION OF ST SWITHIN'S
CHAPEL – ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL**

St Paul's Parish invites expressions of interest from suitably experienced contractors to carry out the extension of St Swithin's Chapel at St Paul's Cathedral. Interested persons should submit their interest in carrying out this work to Rosalie Lawrence, by no later than Friday 18th October 2024, on email jackro@helanta.co.sh.

Should you require any further information please contact Bishop Dale on Telephone 24471 or email dale.penny@helanta.co.sh.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

MEMBER JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are being sought to fill the position of Member of the Judicial Service Commission.

The St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha Constitution provides for a Judicial Service Commission comprising of the Chief Justice (President), the Attorney General, the Public Solicitor and one other member appointed by the Governor.

The Member appointed to the Commission must have St Helenian status. Members of the Legislative Council, Officers of the Public Service, Judges or Judicial Officers are not eligible to be Members of the Commission.

For serving as a Member, an attendance allowance of £35 per meeting is paid, along with a mileage allowance of 0.77p per mile when using personal vehicles in connection with attendance at meetings.

For further information, persons who may be interested can contact the Commission Secretary, Miss Yvonne Williams, on Tel No: 22340 or via e-mail yvonne.williams@judicialservices.sh

The relevant form to register an interest may be obtained from Miss Linda Benjamin, Information & Research Support Officer, at the Castle on Tel No: 22470, via email: linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh or on the SHG website at <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/>

Completed forms should be returned to the Information & Research Support Officer by Monday, 4 November 2024.

**SHG
08 October 2024**



As the world hurtles forward in the digital age, the young people of St. Helena Island, particularly those who have recently completed their GCSEs, are navigating an educational and career landscape that is increasingly influenced by technology. This article explores the pivotal role technology plays in the education and career choices of Young People on this remote South Atlantic island, and what this means for their future.

Technology as a Learning Tool

Technology has become a vital part of education for young people on St. Helena Island, with Island schools integrating digital tools to enhance learning. Online platforms such as Coursera, Khan Academy, Duolingo, edX, and Udemy are being used to provide students with a wide range of educational resources and flexibility in learning schedules, allowing them to access subjects not typically available in traditional school settings, such as coding bootcamps and language learning through Duolingo's gamified approach.

The Impact of Social Media on Career Choices

Social media has had a significant impact on the career aspirations of young people on St. Helena Island, with platforms like YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok opening up new career possibilities in content creation, social media management, and digital marketing. These platforms also serve as tools for showcasing skills and connecting with potential employers, with LinkedIn being a popular choice for networking. Social media also helps young individuals stay informed about industry trends and developments, shaping their career choices and influencing their expectations for workplace culture, with many seeking jobs that offer flexibility, creativity, and a strong digital presence.

Access to Information and Resources

The internet has provided young people on St. Helena Island with access to a wide range of educational resources, including online courses from St. Helena Community College and personalized learning platforms. Technology has revolutionized career planning on the island, with digital platforms like LinkedIn and virtual internships offering valuable experience. The gig economy and remote work options, facilitated by platforms like Upwork, provide flexibility and opportunities for students to enter the workforce on their terms. Emerging tech-driven careers are also becoming increasingly popular among the island's youth.

Challenges and Considerations

As young people's tech-driven preferences shape the educational and professional landscape, educators and employers face new challenges in adapting to these changes. Educational institutions on St. Helena Island need to equip students with the digital skills required by modern careers. This includes teaching technical skills, fostering digital literacy, and promoting adaptability. The St. Helena Community College and the island's schools are working to ensure that their curricula reflect the evolving technological landscape, preparing students for the demands of the modern workplace. Employers must also adapt their workplace environments to align with Young People's expectations for technology integration and flexibility. This includes offering flexible schedules, remote or hybrid work options, collaborative digital platforms, and cutting-edge tech infrastructure. St. Helena Schools' focus on technology integration is a step in the right direction, ensuring that both teachers and students are equipped with the necessary tools and support.

Technology has fundamentally reshaped how young people on St. Helena Island approach education and career choices. From personalized learning experiences to emerging tech-driven careers, digital tools have expanded opportunities and transformed expectations. To support young people in navigating their tech-driven futures, key stakeholders must consider several strategies:

- **Teachers:** Continuously update curricula to include relevant digital skills and foster adaptability.
- **Employers:** Embrace flexible work arrangements and integrate cutting-edge technology into their operations.
- **Policymakers:** Address the digital divide and ensure equitable access to technological resources.
- **Career Counsellors:** Stay informed about emerging tech careers and digital networking strategies.
- **Parents and Mentors:** Encourage young people to explore diverse tech-related experiences and develop a balanced approach to technology use.

By understanding and adapting to young people's unique relationship with technology, we can create educational and professional environments that nurture their potential and prepare them for the challenges of an increasingly digital world. As St. Helena Island continues to evolve, embracing these changes will be crucial for the future success of its young population.

Till Next Time, keep Well!



Ronald and Diana Williams; proprietors of Moonshines would like to thank all of those who kindly donated prizes for the raffle towards the Cancer Support & Awareness Charity, those who sold tickets and to those who supported us on the night. Below is the results from the raffle:

Prize	Description	Ticket number	Winner
1	Picnic Bench	21	Danielle Anthony, Barracks Square
2	Food Hamper	313	Jeff Ellick, HTH
3	Vegetable Hamper	708	Cecily Williams, Blue Hill
4	Russell Hobs Hand Mixer	518	Ivy Duncan, Alarm Forest
5	Vegetable Hamper	732	Pam Benjamin, HTH
6	Bottle Vodka	965	John Green, Horse Pasture
7	Cake	53	Consuela Henry, Young's Valley
8	Duvet Set	410	Janella Moulding, Deadwood
9	Cake	142	Seth Lawrence
10	Pyrex Dish	864	Clare Harris, Near White Gate
11	Duvet Set	339	Inez Richards, HTH
12	Bottle Amarula	600	Rebecca Young, Ladder Hill
13	Bottle Protea Wine	83	Keith Joshua, HTH
14	Bottle Cellar Cast Red Wine	531	Christine Scipio, Longwood
15	Bag & Crochet Mat Set	445	Eamon Mittens, Deadwood
16	Bottle Chamdor	41	Max Peters, Blue Hill
17	Bottle Four Cousins	805	Sharon Peters, Longwood Hangings
18	Frozen Food Hamper	3	Christian Green, Sapper Way
19	Table Place Mat Set	389	Kimmy Leo, Levelwood
20	Non- Alcoholic Wine	647	Gwen Thomas, Hutt's Gate
21	Artificial Flower Arrangement	368	Kevin Simon, HTH
22	Crystal Vase	180	Mark Henry, St. Paul's
23	Local Potatoes	971	Patricia Coyle, Alarm Forest
24	Locally Made Pot-Pori Dish	280	Cherilee Furniss, Jamestown
Raffle Tickets sold			£973.00
Donations from Meals sold (£2 per meal)			£144.00
Donations and tips from the Bar			£107.37
Total transferred to Cancer Support & Awareness Charity			£1224.37

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR UK STATE (2025 BIRTHDAY HONOURS) AND ST HELENA NATIONAL AWARDS

Nominations are now being invited for the following awards:

- 2025 Birthday Honours

To find out more about the different types of Honours Awards please visit www.gov.uk/honours. Some of these include:

- Certificate and Badge of Honour
- Acts of Bravery Award
- Badge of St Helena
- Freedom of the City of Jamestown



Information on the above awards can be found on the SHG website at <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/2024/news/call-for-nominations-for-uk-state-2025-birthday-honours-and-st-helena-national-awards/>. Alternatively, further information and nomination forms can be obtained from Central Support Service at the Castle, Jamestown, or can be requested via email through linda.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh. **Completed forms should be returned to the Castle in a sealed envelope marked 'Confidential' addressed to 'The Secretary, Honours and Awards Committee', by Monday, 18 November 2024.**

SHG
3 September 2024



Appraisal of Recycling Options in St Helena

Invitation to Quote

The South Atlantic Plastic Project team, at the St Helena National Trust (SHNT) and the Zoological Society of London, are seeking a consultant with small island waste and resource management expertise to provide an updated appraisal of recycling options for waste materials in St Helena. The report will focus on assessing the feasibility of sustainable practices, whether through increased capacity and innovation on the island or by exporting waste to commercial partners. This appraisal is to be used as a tool to advise local waste management practitioners, providing feasible up-to-date options for a variety of waste streams that aligns with St Helena's Sustainable Economic Development Plan.

If you would like further information please contact Tobias Capel, tobias.capel@trust.org.sh or telephone 22569. A full brief will also be available for collection from the SHNT Office Manager at Broadway House, email amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh or telephone 22190.

The deadline for receiving bid submissions is the **17th October 2024**.

Electrician (C&G Level 3 or equivalent)

AND

Electrical Team Leader

Deadline for Applications: Friday, 25th October 2024

Job Description

Encompass Digital Media has vacancies for an Electrician as well as a Team Leader in the Electrical Team at the BBC Atlantic Relay Station on Ascension Island. The post holders will form part of the team that is responsible for the Electrical Maintenance of the Power Station and wider Encompass site, including residential properties.

Essential Qualifications & Experience

- Excellent timekeeping and ability to meet deadlines, willingness to work flexibly and at short notice, when required.
- Good understanding of safety procedures and safe working practices, particularly regarding Electrical work
- Electrician qualified to City & Guilds Level 3 or equivalent, in a relevant subject.
- Consistent application of Electrical skills & developed experience in an Electrician's role.
- Must be capable of achieving HV Authorised Person status under Encompass Safety rules.
- Manual Handling Training and other Statutory Safety Training specific to role
- Proven experience in fault-finding, rectification and repair of faults.
- Basic knowledge of instrumentation and good interpretation of Electrical diagrams.
- Knowledge of High voltage Power Generation Systems, using large diesel generators and wind-turbines.
- Experience of electrical installation and maintenance.
- IT Literate, particularly in use of Email, Microsoft Word and Excel, to a lesser extent.

Additional Requirements for Team Leader position

- Experience in leading and managing a team
- Experience in managing and directing work schedules; specific proven capability in managing multiple priorities
- Proven capability in cost management and work planning

Salary & Remuneration

We are offering a two-year contract with either Single or Accompanied status with salaries starting from:

- Electrician - £14,500.00 per annum
- Electrical Team Leader - £19,883.00 per annum

The package also includes:

- Accommodation
- A food allowance of £3,905.00 (or £7,329.00 if accompanied) per annum
- Relocation allowance for your personal effects, including a personal vehicle
- Utilities (Water, Electricity and Phone) Allowance

Please note that any offer of employment will be subject to satisfactory criminal and professional vetting, valid travel documents as well as satisfactory medical clearance.

For a **Job Application Form**, full **Job Description** and for any further information, please contact Administration Officer, Krystal Phillips at KPhillips@encompass.tv

Applications should be submitted on the designated Encompass job application form, and must be received by **Friday, 25th October 2024**. **When applying please clearly state which role you are applying for or if you are registering interest in both opportunities.**

Join us!

We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

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

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

Enquiries: Damian Burns on Email
Damian.burns@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 14 October 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: 18 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

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

Customer Service Officer-Post & Customer Services Centre (£9,197 per annum)

Do you have good customer service skills and IT skills? Here is an opportunity for you to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive by being responsible for the provision of a customer service frontline which is well-versed in all of the products or services in Postal and Customer Services delivery. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Karen Yon on Email:**
karen.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing Date: **18 October 2024**

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**

Crown Estates Manager (£18,902 per annum)

As part of the strengthening of the Property team the Economic Development Portfolio is seeking to recruit a Crown Estates Manager to be responsible for the day to day operations and service delivery of the Crown Estates Team. You will also be required to deliver the requirements of the new Property Disposal and Purchase Policy 2024 (PDPP 2024), so that property is accessible for residential and investment opportunities, ensuring economic growth. The post holder will be required to have a good understanding of the fiduciary duty to be exercised when disposing of Crown property and previous experience in a Managerial role. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Nikita Crowie on Tel No 22270 or Email**
nikita.crowie@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing Date: **18 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

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

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

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Join us!

We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Leasehold Manager

(£18,902 per annum)

The Economic Development Portfolio is looking to strengthen the Property team to deliver the requirements of the new Property Disposal and Purchase Policy 2024 (PDPP 2024), by proactively identifying commercial property before lease expiry for the Property Disposal Register, and enabling economic growth by monitoring leasehold covenants so that property is better maintained and readily let at a competitive rent. The Leasehold Manager will also be responsible for delivering effective day to day leasehold management services to commercial tenants, and implementing policies and procedures that support a professional, leasehold management service to residential and commercial Crown property tenants. Contact us for further information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Nikita Crowie on Tel No 22270 or Email**
nikita.crowie@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing Date: **18 October 2024**

Bus Driver

(£7,960 per annum)

The bus driver will help the island thrive by being responsible for helping to provide the Public Transport services for the community. The Public Transport Service is well utilized by shift workers for home to work purposes as well as many other members of the community for social purposes; it is highly valued by all users. The Bus driver will also be responsible for carrying out daily water, oil and other checks as required by the Senior Transport Manager. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Nicholas George on Tel No 23208 or Email**
Vehicle.Fleet@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: **16 October 2024**

Senior Human Resources Assistant

(£9,781 per annum)

Here is a great opportunity to start your career in HR! Central Human Resources is seeking to recruit a motivated and enthusiastic individual to join our HR Transactional team. In this post, you will be responsible for undertaking a range of HR transactional processes to ensure the delivery of a high quality HR service. 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: **16 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

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.

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

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Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

Sea Rescue Crew (Auxiliary)

(£5.37 per hour) 18 years + and must be able to swim and pass a fitness test.

The successful applicant will receive a monthly retainer of £70 on completion of basic training.

Trainee Helmsmen (Sea Rescue)

(£7,700 per annum)

Applications will be considered from 16 years +

Are you keen to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive by protecting and saving lives at sea? If you are a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual with the ability to remain calm under extreme physical and mental pressure, then the St Helena Sea Rescue Service has the above opportunities for you to join their team. Contact us for more information and a discussion on the above posts.

Enquiries: **Leeroy Caswell** (leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh) or **Mark Caswell** (mark.caswell@helanta.co.sh) on 25215

Closing date: 15 October 2024

PA to Law Officers

(£9,781 per annum)

The Attorney General Chambers is seeking a highly motivated individual who will be responsible for the provision of comprehensive, co-ordinated administrative, secretarial and clerical support to the Law Officers. This role is highly sensitive and the post holder will be responsible for the maintenance and safekeeping of classified documents with regular access to Restricted and Confidential material and occasional access to material with higher markings. A high degree of confidentiality is essential together with excellent attention to detail. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Simon Dykes** on Tel No. 25526 or Email Simon.dykes@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 16 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

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

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

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

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REGISTRATION OF PACKAGES DESTINED FOR UK, EUROPE OR OTHER COUNTRIES

Due to international requirements for declaration of imported goods in respect of countries such as UK, Germany, USA, the Post & Customer Services Centre (PCSC) has had to implement procedures to ensure that goods sent to these countries by airmail or surface mail, have the relevant documentation for importation.

The procedure will include ensuring that all packages destined for UK, countries in Europe or other international countries, are registered. The registration fee will be seventy pence (70p) and is additional to the cost of posting. For example, the postage for a 200g package by airmail is £3.30.

With the registration fee, the cost of the package is now £4.00.

The registered package will then be entered into an international Customs Declaration System (CDS). This is known as Pre-Electronic Data (PED), and allows the country of destination to be aware of the package's impending arrival.

The benefits of this procedure include lowering the risk for packages being seized or destroyed via international customs authorities by allowing the following:

- A certainty of provenance (origin) of an item
- Pre-knowledge of what goods are arriving in countries of destination, which lowers the risk of the package being opened for suspected drug contents
- If there is an issue, the CDS will allow the PCSC to track the item and determine if it has been confiscated due to cross-contamination or other reasons.

Airmail and surface packages to Ascension or the Falklands will not be subjected to these procedures, and therefore will not require registration.

www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/

twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG, 7 October 2024



INVITATION TO TENDER

CONSTRUCTION OF A WHEELCHAIR ACCESS RAMP AND SAFETY RAILS AT THE EDUCATION LEARNING CENTRE

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

CS-1885-SHG – Construction of a Wheelchair Access Ramp and Safety Rails at the Education Learning Centre

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.

A site visit to view the works will take place on Monday, 07 October 2024 at 09:00, meeting at the Education Learning Centre, 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, 14 October 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG, 30 September 2024



INVITATION TO TENDER

RUPERT'S DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC CAR PARK

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

CS-1881-SHG – Rupert's Development Public Car Park

Copies of the tender document, and any further details, can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown by telephone on 25932 or via email through

A site visit to view the works will take place on Thursday, 17 October 2024 at 09:00, meeting next to the Container Freight Station Building at Rupert's.

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.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Friday, 25 October 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG

08 October 2024



INVITATION TO TENDER

REPLACE ROOFING AT THE COMMUNITY CARE COMPLEX AND ELECTRICAL RE-WIRE OF LEVELWOOD CLINIC

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

SSHA-1835-SHG – Replace Roofing at the Community Care Complex – Ladder Hill

SSHA-1892-SHG – Electrical Re-wire of Levelwood Clinic

Copies of the tender documents can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown, contactable by telephone on 25932 or via email through

A site visit to view the works will take place on Wednesday 16 October 2024 at 10:00, meeting at the Clinic, Levelwood and at 13:00, meeting at the Community Care Complex, Ladder Hill.

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

Completed tenders for both contracts should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Friday 25 October 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG

09 October 2024



VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT AUDITOR

Salary range £9,185 to £11,327 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.

**Select Committee 1 –
Topic for Scrutiny**

The public is hereby notified that for the next topic for scrutiny, Select Committee 1 has selected **Health & Social Care Portfolio: Provision of Facilities and Services** and the inquiry will focus primarily on:


- **Hospital (including Palliative care)**
- **Community Care Centre, Sheltered Accommodation and Domiciliary Care**
- **Safe Haven and Children’s Home.**

Members of the public are invited to submit information to Select Committee 1, which might assist with this inquiry, through the Committee Secretary on e-mail:


marita.bagley@sainthelena.gov.sh or by letter, for attention of the Committee Secretary, the Legislative Council Office, The Castle, before 4pm on Thursday 14 November 2024.

Legislative Council
9 October 2024





**OCTOBER
OPENING HOURS**



Main Branch*

Monday - Friday	08:45 - 15:00
Saturday	09:00 - 12:00


Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 - 14:30
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Remote Banking


HTH Supermarket	Monday, 28 October	09:30 - 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Wednesday, 30 October	09:30 - 14:00


*The Merchant Booth is open Monday to Friday, 08:45 - 10:00 and 11:30 - 13:30.





Bank of St. Helena Ltd.


 info@sainthelenabank.com


 www.sainthelenabank.com

 @sainthelenabank

 +290 22390

 Market Street, Jamestown

 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

APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Application has been received in respect of the following proposals:

- 1. Application 2024/50:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Covered Area, Garage & Kitchen Extension**, Alarm Hill on Parcel DRRR0220. Applicant: Darren McCoy
- 2. Application 2024/51:** FULL Planning Application for (Amended design) **Proposed Construction of Balcony & Verandah with Secondary Means of Escape**, Yacht Club, Jamestown on Parcels JT010021 & JT010001. Applicant: St Helena Yacht Club
- 3. Application 2024/52:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Installation of Mast & Microwave Link Antenna**, Half Tree Hollow Supermarket on Parcel HTH0146. Applicant: Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc
- 4. Application 2024/53:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Construction of Storage Shed**, Nr Scotland Offices, St Pauls on Parcel SCOT0138. Applicant: Environment, Natural Resources & Planning Portfolio
- 5. Application 2024/54:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Construction of a Sheep Shelter**, Bottom Woods Pasture, Longwood on Parcel LWN0501. Applicant: ANRD, ENR&P Portfolio
- 6. Application 2024/55:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Construction of a 2 Bedroom Split Level Dwelling**, Youngs Valley, St Pauls on Parcels SCOT0416 & SCOT0512. Applicant: Delray McDaniel
- 7. Application 2024/56:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Construction of a Storage Building**, Head O'Wain, Blue Hill on Parcel BG0192. Applicant: Simon Henry

Any person who wishes to make Representations on any of the above Applications should make them in writing within 14 days to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email jane.roberts@sainthelena.gov.sh
Public Representation Closing Date: 4pm – 25th October 2024

Patricia Coyle, Head of Planning & Building Control



St Helena
Government

Copies of the Applications and Plans may be inspected by prior appointment with the Planning Section, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown, Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 4pm. Appointments can be made with the Administration Assistant on Telephone 24724 or email jane.roberts@sainthelena.gov.sh stating the Application Reference Number they wish to inspect.

Mantis St Helena



Around the **WORLD** BUFFET

Limited space available · Available for dine-in only

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Please contact us on +290 25505

WEDNESDAY

16
OCT
18:30

Take your tastebuds on a journey around the world

STARTERS

- Build-a-Poke Bowl Station (with steamed rice, vegetable fillers, fresh marinated tuna and dressings)
- Mini fish selection: olive and basil pesto tuna fish cake, coconut and lime poached wahoo fish cake, sweet chili and balsamic fish cake
- Saimon sushis
- Homemade curry puffs

MAINS

- Coffee-rubbed minute steaks
- The Mantis Pl
- Coconut-battered fish filets with hibiscus tartare
- Slow-cooked chicken curry
- Steamed rice with local fresh herbs
- Creamed potatoes with nutmeg and chives
- Roasted garden vegetables
- Squash with seeds and toasted nuts

DESSERTS

- Coconut fingers, Mantis style
- Pumpkin pudding with coffee custard
- Spiced poached fruit

Tea and Filter Coffee

£24.50 per person
Kids below 12 pay half price

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Please contact us on +290 25505

SUNDAY

13
OCT

2PM - 5PM

- Crustless leek, onion and spinach mini quiche
- Mini chicken kebabs in chermoula
- Masala vegetable spring rolls
- Brie and berry crostini
- Ham, mustard and pickles crostini
- Cheddar cheese and tomato pesto crostini
- Date, honey and coconut truffles
- Iced chocolate cupcakes
- Assorted tea biscuits
- Enjoy unlimited filter coffee, black and red tea

Kindly note that the menu is served directly to your table and not in a buffet style.

Specialty coffees, soft drinks, bottled water, and alcoholic beverages are available at an additional cost.

£10.00 per person
Minimum booking of two guests per table is required

Limited space available · Available for dine-in only

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Please contact us on +290 25505

High Tea SUNDAY

Mantis St Helena



A Glimpse of the Most Secretive Island in the World

Continued from PAGE 8



Some of the asylum seekers on Diego Garcia. They have signs saying, 'no one to help us' – 'when are we released from this open prison' and 'where is our human right'

UK government lawyers brought a legal challenge to try to block the BBC from attending the hearing, and even when permission was granted following a ruling by the territory's Supreme Court, the US later objected, saying it would not provide food, transport or accommodation to all those attempting to reach the island for the case - including the judge and barristers.

One note sent from the US government to British officials said, "As discussed previously, the United States agrees with the position of HMG [His Majesty's Government] that it would be preferable for members of the press to observe the hearing virtually from London, to minimize risks to security of the Facility."

In the BBC's bid to access the island, UK officials referred questions up to US staff. When the US blocked the court hearing from taking place on Diego Garcia this summer, a senior official at the Ministry of Defence said the UK "did not have the ability to grant access".

One email between Foreign Office colleagues stated "The US security assessment is classified... [they] have demonstrated that they have strict controls in place." The British Indian Ocean Territory acting commissioner has said it is not possible for him to "compel the US authorities" to grant access to any part of the military facility constructed by the US under the terms of the UK-US agreement, despite it being a British territory.

Britain has little authority in this British Overseas Territory. In recent years, the territory has been costing the UK tens of £millions, with the bulk of this categorised as "migrant costs". Communications obtained by the BBC between foreign office officials in July regarding the Sri Lankan Tamils warn that "the costs are increasing and the latest forecast is that these will be £50 million per annum".

Permission was finally granted for BBC reporter Alice Cuddy to spend 5 days on Diego Garcia. The permission came with a list of restrictions, including where she was not al-

lowed to go. She was also restricted in saying what the restrictions were. Requests for minor changes to the permit were denied by British and US officials. Personnel from a private security firm were flown out to 'guard' the BBC team. Despite restrictions, some of the small atoll was seen and could be reported.

Alice Cuddy wrote, pulling on to the runway alongside grey military aircraft, a sign on a hangar greets you: "Diego Garcia. Footprint of Freedom," above images of the US and British flags. She continued, this is the first of many references to freedom on the island's signage, a nod to the UK-US military base that has been there since the early 1970s. Agreements signed in 1966 leased the island to the US for 50 years initially, with a possible extension for a further 20 years. The arrangement was rolled over and is set to expire in 2036.

As I make my way through airport security and beyond, US and UK influences jostle for predominance. In the terminal, there is a door decorated with a union jack print and walls hung with photos of significant British figures, including Winston Churchill. On the island itself, I spot British police cars and a nightclub called the Brit Club with a bulldog logo. We pass roads named Britannia Way and Churchill Road. But cars drive on the right, as they do in the US. We are driven around in a bright yellow bus reminiscent of an American school bus. The US dollar is the accepted currency and the electricity sockets are American. The food offered to us for the five days includes "tater tots" - a popular American fried-potato side dish - and American biscuits, similar to British scones.



US military enjoy cooling off in the swimming pool

The atmosphere on the island feels relaxed. Troops and contractors ride past on bikes, and I see people playing tennis and windsurfing in the late afternoon sun. But there are also constant reminders of the sensitive base that is here. Military drills can be heard early in the morning, and near our accommodation block is a fenced-off building identified as an armoury. All the time, US and British military officials keep a close eye on the court's movements.

Alice Cuddy noted, I get to see a former plantation on the east of the island, where buildings stand in disrepair. The grand plantation manager's house has a sign outside reading: "Danger unsafe structure. Do not enter. By order: Brit rep [representative]." A large crab crawls up the door of an aban-

A Glimpse of the Most Secretive Island in the World

doned guest house. At a church on the plantation site, a sign, in French, beneath the crucifix reads: "Let us pray for our Chagossian brothers and sisters." Wild donkeys still roam in the area.



The Sri Lankans are held close to the military base

A military sciences director at leading UK defence think tank Rusi, says Diego Garcia is an "enormously important" base, "because of its position in the Indian Ocean and the facilities it has: port, storage and airfield".

The island is also an important location for "space tracking and observation capabilities". Tankers operating from Diego Garcia refuelled US B-2 bombers that had flown from the US to carry out the first airstrikes on Afghanistan after the 9/11 attacks. And, during the subsequent "war on terror", aircraft were also sent directly from the island itself to Afghanistan and Iraq.

A senior lecturer in international relations at King's College London, agrees the base fulfils "a lot of important roles" - but "there is this level of secrecy that seems to go beyond what we see at other places. There has been this hyper-focus on controlling access and on limiting access, which... seems to go beyond what, given what we publicly know about the assets, capabilities and units are based there."

Rumours have long swirled about the uses of Diego Garcia, including that it has been used as a CIA black-site - a facility used to house and interrogate terror suspects. The UK government confirmed in 2008 that flights carrying terror suspects had landed on the island in 2002, following years of assurances that they had not. Former CIA director Michael Hayden said that information previously "supplied in good faith" to the UK about rendition flights - stating that they had never landed there - had "turned out to be wrong".

Jerry fighting fires on Ascension Island

No two days are the same for Jerry Williams, who works as a firefighter as part of Mitie's contract with the UK Ministry of Defence Strategic Command on Ascension Island. It's an isolated but strategically-located 33.97 square mile landmass in the South Atlantic Ocean. Jerry shared his experiences working for the UK's leading facilities management company.

Hi Jerry – can you tell us about your role?

I'm a firefighter on Ascension Island and have lived here for around 24 years. I'm originally from the island of Saint Helena, which is about 800 miles away and is another part of the Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha British overseas territory. My job involves responding to all fire-related emergencies, alarms and road traffic collisions. That can involve driving the fire engines – we have two Volvo Saxons. The safety record on Ascension Island is very good. We've had a few car fires, but no-one was injured. There have also been some small domestic fires, which were extinguished by those involved. My daily duties include inspecting and testing firefighting equipment, servicing fire extinguishers and hydrants and conducting fire awareness training for many of the people working on Ascension Island.

Wow, it sounds like you're kept busy. Do you get much time off?

Of course. Ascension Island has been a strategic outpost since the 18th century and is an interesting place to live and explore. The highest peak, Green Mountain, contains a planned forest. The idea for it came from Charles Darwin, who visited in 1836 and found the island rocky and barren. It still has at least 44 dormant volcanic craters.

I love the subtropical climate, which means year-round warm weather with an average 31 degrees. The surrounding waters are abundant with marine life. Turtles make their way here from Brazil to nest on the beaches. Life for me is very good. I enjoy fishing and cook-ups with friends, plus chilling on the beach or by myself. There are clubs to join if you want to go diving or help with conservation, as well as social walks and of course the pub for having a few drinks. You can be as busy or relaxed as you choose.

So what's the best thing about working as a firefighter on Ascension Island?

I enjoy not having to be in the office all day. The majority of my job requires me to work outside and in different places on the island. I could be carrying out practical training, servicing equipment or meeting new people. It's never dull. Also because standard operating procedures are changing all the time, I get plenty of training. There are also opportunities to move up the ladder with Mitie – but it's up to the individual on how far up they want to go.

What skills do you need to succeed in your role?

You have to be qualified as a firefighter in the first place. I'm Ministry of Defence certified due to completing my basic 17-week course at the Fire Service Central Training Establishment in Manston, Kent. Then when you land the job, it's about getting along with your colleagues – you really do rely on each other. Trust and having each other's back is crucial. I also think it's important to listen. We have different backgrounds and experiences, so someone might have a better way of getting the job done. And my main advice is to be honest. Don't try to pull the wool over people's eyes. You will only get found out.

Safety warning issued following the foundering of fishing vessel Argos Georgia with the loss of 13 lives



Safety warning issued following the foundering of fishing vessel Argos Georgia with the loss of 13 lives



Summary

Argos Georgia was a longline fishing vessel registered in St Helena. The vessel foundered while on passage from Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands to fishing grounds near the island of South Georgia. Of the 27 persons people on board, 13 perished.

The ongoing investigation has found that the shell door in the starboard side of Argos Georgia descended slowly into the

fully open position. This allowed significant quantities of water to enter the vessel.

Safety Issues

- the means of maintaining the shell door in the closed position did not ensure it remained shut when not in use
- the crew were unable to close the shell door once it had opened; and
- the doors in the boundary of the flooded compartment were in the open position, allowing consequential flooding of adjacent spaces
- the crew were unable to close the boundary doors to the hauling compartment.

Recommendation

All owners, operators and skippers of fishing vessels fitted with side shell doors are recommended to urgently ensure that a suitable and sufficient assessment of the risk of water entering the vessel through the side shell door has been undertaken and documented, noting the safety issues identified in this safety bulletin, and that:

- mitigations identified are immediately implemented to reduce the risks associated with a failure of the shell door retention mechanism;
- where a risk of consequential flooding between compartments exists, appropriate measures including maintaining internal doors in the closed position are taken; and
- the crew are informed of the findings of the risk assessment and the measures taken for their protection.

Spain warns of hard border with Gibraltar unless UK accepts Spanish forces on Rock

Talks are ongoing between Spain and Britain about what to do with Gibraltar - a tiny enclave at the southern end of Spain that has been under British rule since the 18th century - before new EU border rules come in next month.

After Brexit, the two countries agreed in 2020 that Gibraltar would remain part of the Schengen passport-free European zone until a permanent solution could be found.

As part of the current proposed deal, the Spanish government has insisted that it be allowed to station its security forces at the Gibraltar airport and port.

Gibraltar has said this would be unacceptable. Fabian Picardo, the Rock's chief minister, said he would not allow "Spanish boots on the ground".

Without free movement, British citizens living in Gibraltar would only be able to spend 90 days in Spain every 180 days.

Spain's foreign minister said that although the new EU digital border system was unrelated to the Gibraltar agreement, it would still affect thousands of people on both sides of the border.

The new rules, which come into force on November 10, mean that non-EU citizens arriving in the Schengen area will have to give fingerprints, have their face scanned and answer questions about their stay.

Travellers' passports will no longer be stamped manually, and the fingerprints and face scans will be registered instead.

Spain's foreign minister Jose Manuel Albares said it was up to the British government to choose whether it wants to restrict movement for Gibraltarians or to accept "the generous and balanced deal on offer."

Gibraltar has a population of around 34,000 in an area of 2.6 square miles. It was ceded to Britain in 1713 by Spain in a treaty following a war.

Spain wants control of Gibraltar. It views the Rock as a British colony, which is unacceptable under international law. It says it is supported by the United Nations in this aim.

The territory has close economic and cultural links with Spain, so a hard border would likely have an impact on the local economy. But Gibraltar residents have rejected Spanish sovereignty in two separate referendums, in 1967 and 2002.

Questions of its sovereignty have been raised again in recent days, after the British government agreed to cede control of the Chagos Islands territory to Mauritius.

Keir Starmer told MPs that British sovereignty over Gibraltar and the Falkland Islands, another overseas territory, was not up for debate.

In Prime Minister's Questions, the Prime Minister said: "My uncle nearly lost his life when his ship was torpedoed defending the Falklands, they are British, and they will remain British.

"And sovereignty in Gibraltar is equally not to be negotiated.

"Of course we will do everything we can to make it easier for all businesses to trade more freely so that we can grow our economy."

Calling Secret Santa's 2024

Join in the Joy of Giving this Christmas!

Bring a smile to a Child this Festive Season!

Show your love and generosity by choosing a tag from the Christmas tree in the Canister Window. Each tag represents a child in our community.

How to Participate:

1. Choose a Tag: Visit the Canister (Arts & Crafts side) and select a tag from the Christmas tree.

2. Buy a Gift: Purchase a suitable gift for the child indicated on the tag.

3. Return the Gift: Bring your gift with the tag attached to the Canister or to the

Equality and Human Rights Office in Napoleon Street by **12 noon on 2nd December.**

4. Know a Child in Need? If you know of a child who would benefit from this initiative, please contact the Equality and Human Rights Office before the end of October to have their name included on the gift list.

Your act of kindness will bring joy to a child this Christmas.

Thank you for your generosity and support!



Art & Crafts
Uniquely Saint



Call 22133 for further details



English Footie Gossip

Manchester United prepare a move for Randal Kolo Muani, **Real Madrid** are targeting Arsenal's William Saliba, while **Chelsea** remain interested in Victor Osimhen.

Manchester United have prepared a £58.6m offer for **Paris St-Germain's** 25-year-old France forward Randal Kolo Muani and have made **Chelsea** left-back Ben Chilwell, 27, a top target for January. Under-pressure **Manchester United** manager Erik ten Hag is preparing as usual for the club's next game against Brentford following a meeting of the Old Trafford side's hierarchy.

Real Madrid want to sign **Arsenal** and France defender William Saliba as a "top priority" in 2025, with Los Blancos already in contact with the 23-year-old.

Galatasaray will look to make Nigeria striker Victor Osimhen's loan move from **Napoli** permanent, while **Chelsea** remain interested. However, the 25-year-old will cost £68m in January or £63m next summer.

Manchester City are considering **Porto** goalkeeper Diogo Costa, 25, as a replacement for Ederson, but the Portugal stopper will cost £63m.

Spain midfielder Martin Zubimendi has reiterated his desire to stay at **Real Sociedad** despite speculation of interest from **Manchester City**.

Crystal Palace will step up their pursuit of **Hammarby's** 18-year-old Ivorian forward Bazoumana Toure, who is also of interest to **Manchester United** and **Celtic**.

Arsenal will still target a striker in the January transfer window, despite the promising start to the season made by Germany forward Kai Havertz, 25.

Liverpool defender Virgil van Dijk, 33, is next in line for a new contract after the club secured the long-term future of France centre-back Ibrahima Konate, 25.

Arsenal, **Tottenham** and **Newcastle United** are all interested in **Aston Villa's** 23-year-old England youth midfielder Jacob Ramsey.

Newcastle might sell England striker Callum Wilson, 32, in January to facilitate move for a new forward.

Marseille are in advanced talks to sign France midfielder Paul Pogba, 31, who can play again from March after a four-year ban for a doping offence was reduced to 18 months.

Pogba will have his **Juventus** contract terminated following his doping ban.



Virgil van Dijk

There are no scheduled Premier League matches this weekend as the top-flight pauses for a scheduled mid-October break. They are nearly a quarter of the way through the 2024/25 season and the league is on hiatus,



Mouse – I'm going to punch you in the face



Does by bum look to big in this?

Cliff Richards selected as Captain



Cliff Richards has been selected as Captain of Team St Helena heading to the Sub Regional Qualifiers in Africa.

The St Helena Cricket Association has just announced the names of the cricket squad to travel to Nigeria later this year and their Captain as they head for the playoffs.

The team, selected by head coach Nadeem Ahmed, attended a middle training session over the weekend and at the end were each given a letter confirming their inclusion in the squad.

The overall training squad has now been reduced to 14 players and an additional 2 players have been added as reserve players.

Derek Richards, President of the Cricket Association, told St FM that this is a proud moment for the Association, the selected players and St Helena as this group will represent the Island in the Sub Regional Africa Qualifiers in Group C.

The team met again last night¹ to plan their way forward in a meeting where Cliff Richards has been named Captain for this year's tournament and he will now work with the coach and the team in planning a way forward.

Cliff, on his selection and appointment as Captain, said "I feel truly honored to be selected as captain of the National Team for the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup Qualifiers in Nigeria. I would like to thank the squad and coach Nadeem for entrusting me with the responsibility of leading the team.

My vision for team St Helena is simple, to be the best that we can be. I believe that each one of us has a unique strength and together, we can achieve great things.

I can assure everyone that I am committed to this team and to our shared goal of qualification. I am willing to put in the time, effort, and dedication required to help build an extraordinary team. I believe in us, in our potential, and in what we can achieve together.

Let's work together and make our island proud."

Senior player Andrew Yon who will be making his

4th appearance on the international scene, said that he is pleased that Cliff has progressed to this level and is looking forward to working with him to take Team St Helena to another level.

Coach Nadeem Ahmed during the meeting, said "choosing a captain was a difficult choice because this squad has many good and experienced players. However, a captain/leader in my view has to have 3 qualities:

Concern and respect for his peers, he must put the team before himself and breed a positive energy that uplifts the team.

Looking at these qualities Cliff Richards stood out and hence became my preferred candidate. Cliff's man management skills and the respect his teammates have for him was something that really stood out for me.

In the period I was away he constantly showed care about his own game and the game of his teammates by checking in with me twice a week without me asking him to do so. It was for these factors I felt Cliff is the correct choice to lead this team on our journey to qualification.

Two times captain (Botswana 2018 and Rwanda 2022) Scott Crowie who was also selected as a part of the squad, shared his view "the captain's role is very complex one that involves you as an individual thinking for others before yourself....in order to balance this it will take great mental strength to balance the needs of the squad as well as concentrating on your own game.... Some may say having the Captain sign by your name is a great honour.. and it is, but it also comes with great responsibility..... I have no doubt that cliff will be a great leader and I look forward to playing under his guidance". No vice-captain was selected but around Cliff will be a wealth of cricketing knowledge and experience.

Team St Helena for the short term will continue training and building for the tournament.



From the St Helena Golf Club

Report by SHGC

A Texas Scramble was held on the 6th October with a total of twenty-six players participating. This format is typically characterized by teams of players working together to achieve the best score possible, which in this case was measured using Stableford points scoring.

The outright winners of the competition were the pair Norman Thomas and Chedwin Lawrence, who scored an impressive 45 Stableford points. Following closely in second place were Martin Buckley and Martin Joshua, who accumulated 43 points. The second-place finish was determined after a count back against Gerald George and Anthony Green, indicating that their scores were tied but Buckley and Joshua had a better performance on the last few holes.

Notable Achievements: Throughout the day, there were four "twos" recorded, which refers to players making a score of two on a par three hole. Team Norman & Cheddy achieved two of these twos, showcasing their strong performance throughout the round. Additionally, one two was scored by Team Jackson & Martin J and another by Team Pat Henry & Jeff Foxy.

Following the presentation of awards for the Texas Scramble,



a Half Yearly Annual meeting took place. During this meeting, significant organizational changes occurred as Helena Stevens was voted in as Lady Captain by those present at the meeting.

A special acknowledgment was made to KJ for organizing refreshments including teas, coffee, sandwiches, and both sweet and savory items that were enjoyed by all attendees.

Upcoming Events: Looking ahead, members are reminded that the next competition will be a Medalford event scheduled for October 13th. Members interested in participating can sign up on the provided sheet or contact via telephone at 24421.

Happy swinging.....!

ERIKA HAIR STYLIST

**** 2 WEEKS **
PROMOTION**

* GENTS HAIRCUT £10

* LADIES HAIRCUT & BLOWAVE £13

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Sunday 20th October 3pm

The SDA Church, Jamestown