

***Urgent St Helena
Question***



***Commonwealth Heads of
Government Meeting***



**CHOGM
SAMOA 2024**

Immigration Story in Full

***Mr Mervyn Yon receives the Church Lads Brigade
Exemplary Service Medal***



Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting



Now for something completely different. Instead of the very small Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean we switch to Samoa; two much larger islands in the Pacific Ocean where the leaders of Commonwealth governments are having the summit meeting that is scheduled every two years.

Starting on Monday and finishing tomorrow, the Heads of Government meeting is today. Other days of the CHOGM week are scheduled for the four main Forums – Women’s Forum, Youth Forum, People’s Forum and Business Forum. The People’s Forum is for civil society representative rather than government.

The main thing about this week’s CHOGM is the blaze of bright colour. The people, the buildings, everywhere, the Samoans, other Pacific Islanders and most other delegates wear bright colours.



Colourful – but serious. The Commonwealth Ministers Meeting



Women’s Forum – colourful and smiling



At the opening ceremony



And a great time for meeting new people



St Helena Allsorts

FATAL ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISION UPDATE

Royal St Helena Police (RSHP) continue to investigate a serious road traffic collision that occurred at the New Ground end of Sapper Way, St Pauls, on the morning of Saturday 12 October 2024, where sadly an adult female lost her life.

To assist in the investigation, RSHP's Detective Chief Inspector, Peter Found, and two specialist officers from the UK have travelled to St Helena. The specialist officers will be on the island for one week, while DCI Found, who is leading the investigation, will remain for two weeks.

The investigation necessitated the closure of the lower part of Sapper Way whilst further enquiries were conducted and the area made safe. The road has now been fully re-opened and RSHP would like to thank the public for their understanding and co-operation, and acknowledge the inconvenience this has caused, particularly to the residents of Sapper Way. Police continue to appeal for any persons who may have witnessed the incident, or have any information which may assist with this enquiry.

If anyone has any information which may assist with this investigation, regardless of how minor it may seem, please contact the police on 22626 or via email at cid@sainthelena.gov.sh.

SHG

23 October 2024

FCDO Visit

A team from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) will be conducting a visit to St Helena from Saturday 26 October 2024 to Friday 2 November 2024. The purpose of this visit is to assess the current suitability of primary school education buildings on the island and inform the decision-making process for the Primary Education Review.

As announced in July this year, the Primary Education Review is considering various options, including:

- Maintaining the existing school structure
- Consolidating into a single school
- Creating a primary two-school system

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

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

These engagements will provide valuable insights into the current state of primary education buildings, their suitability to meet our declining pupil numbers, their suitability against the COBIS standards framework and gather stakeholder opinions on the education system. This information will help identify potential areas for improvement and ensure that St Helena's primary education system meets the needs of its young people and contributes to the island's overall development.

Tanker on Sunday

The MT Talisker is scheduled to arrive at St Helena on Sunday 27 October at 6 pm which means she will go to anchor and not dock alongside the jetty until 6 am on Monday 28 October. The public is therefore advised that the whole of Lower Rupert's, including the beach area, will be closed from 6 am on Monday 28th until the bunkering operations have been completed and the vessel has departed.

Due to the floating pipeline, all mariners are advised that access to Rupert's Bay is also restricted. These areas will be strictly prohibited and are limited only to individuals who have made prior arrangements for authorisation from Port Control. Thanks are extended to the public in advance for their patience and co-operation.

Cape Town to St Helena Yacht Race

There are just two months to go until the start of the Cape to St Helena Yacht Race 2024, with the start date being 28th December at 2 pm Cape time. It is believed that there are approximately 9 entries so far and also talk of a possible return race for the next edition which will carry added opportunities for entrants to win trophies. The Royal Cape Yacht Club have had discussions concerning the cost of shipping boats back to Cape Town which has apparently increased significantly since the last event. The Club also recently announced in a newsletter that they have been advised of the mooring situation here at St Helena which was also a point of serious consideration. A meeting has been called for all competitors and interested parties to discuss the latest positions on both the shipping of boats and moorings. The decision to continue with the race was unanimous and for future events to consider the addition of a home-leg race. Information released from the Royal Cape Yacht Club expanded on the moorings situation in which they said the advice received, stated that the moorings are not available to racing yachts. Furthermore, in a follow up email from the island's Port Control, it was confirmed that any moorings still floating are not in any way usable after a dive inspection confirmed that the mooring tackle was completely inadequate for any use. The only option for racing yachts is to make use of a boat anchor and it was agreed that whilst yachts will carry anchoring equipment, the club will investigate feasibility to make available appropriate anchors, chain and other equipment to be deployed ahead of racing yachts' arrival. It is anticipated that sufficient suitable swing moorings will be available for all boats in James Bay, however, boats might be required to anchor. It is expected that the race committee will provide further updates as soon as they become known.



Editorial

There was a time when a beggar looked like beggar, acted like a beggar and gave the clear impression that begging was for him, and sometimes her, the only job he had ever known. Not anymore. Begging has gone the same way as just about everything else; the old rules don't apply and now there are no rules.

Back in the day, a scruffy character with a lot of facial hair (even if female) under a dirty, worn-out hat and coat would shuffle up and say, "spare a tanner for a cup of tea guv". Beggars looked like beggars and spoke like beggars and everyone knew where they stood. A tanner by the way, for those who are not of a certain age, was an 'old 6d'. That's 2.5p in today's decimal currency. The old non-decimal currency was called LSD – that's pounds, shillings and pence. These days of course it means something entirely different. At least these days LSD stands for **LySergic acid Diethylamide**. A simple connection and reasonable explanation.

What did it stand for when it was a name for the money used in the UK before 15th February 1971? You could be as amazed and confused as I was when I found out. It's *librae, solidi, and denarii*. They are Latin words meaning pounds, solids and pennies – probably a loose translation. What on earth is all that about? I don't know. It is just another thing that thwarts me in my constant search for simplicity in life.

Anyway, back to beggars. Often these days, someone who is clean, well dressed and otherwise perfectly acceptable can come straight up to you and say "have you got a cigarette?" in the same way they would say 'hello'. There's no time to waste saying 'hello'. There's work to do. Begging is a day's work, after all. I have to admit it can be confusing when you see someone heading straight for you and instead of the expected 'hello' to kick things off there is a straightforward demand for a cigarette. Stop smoking, that's the answer.

There used to be an art in begging. One down-and-out was not so down-and-out that he could not figure out a reasonable living could be made from selling shoe laces. I should explain, this was over a century ago when all shoes had laces. This down-and-out was also not so down-and-out that he did not realise there could be some money to be made by writing a book about his life. He did write a book, first published in 1908. The copy I got was yet another reprint in 2013. Just checked Amazon, they sell it right now for £8.99 but only have 13 left (they say) but more on the way. Called 'The Autobiography of a Super-Tramp' it is a good read. Filled with the many original characters the 'super-tramp' met on his travels from Wales to North America (and back again a dozen times) and finally back – to write the book. Not too long ago it was one of those books children were required to read at school. Whether it is still required school reading I

don't know, but it's doubtful. So many books get banned now, especially in the United States. Books by authors respected from one generation to another until now. Mark Twain, Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck, George Orwell.

This is another confusion. It was only a few years ago the good people in the 'land of the free' would have sneered at Communist Russia for this kind of censorship. Another major reassessment required.



I'll be back out after Halloween

Vince



The arrangement agreed last week for any migrants arriving at the Chagos Islands to be accommodated in St Helena was discussed in the House of Commons on Monday this week. It was not a debate, but a series of questions to the Minister for the Overseas Territories, Minister Stephen Doughty MP.

This discussion was scheduled at short notice as an 'Urgent Question' after an application by an MP who is a member of the Conservative Party. The Conservatives are the official opposition party to the governing Labour Party. The Speaker decides if the application should go ahead. The Speaker, Lindsay Hoyle, visited St Helena recently and has a strong interest in the Overseas Territories.

Points made during the question-and-answer session have been extracted from the official written record of exactly who said what, and quoted here. It should be noted that Andrew Mitchell, the Conservative opposition spokesperson, conceded the number of migrants accepted by St Helena from the Chagos Islands will be low when he asked, "will the Minister impose a limit—admittedly low, but nevertheless a limit."



The House of Commons Discussion was broadcast live on BBC Parliament. Minister Stephen Doughty responds to another question.

How Many Migrants from the Chagos Islands?

Minister Stephen Doughty – Minister for the Overseas Territories

let me reiterate that no one has actually arrived on BIOT since 2022. This is a contingency measure only, and, of course, it is not a safe place for people to attempt to go to. This is about closing that route and ensuring that if anyone did make that attempt, they could go to a safe place and be properly supported.

Dame Meg Hillier MP

It is welcome to hear St Helena mentioned in the House. The money going there amounts to an increase of about 20% in financial aid from the UK this year, which is sorely needed in

TREASURY COMMITTEE

Dame Meg Hillier MP

has been elected Chair of the committee



Dame Meg Hillier, a longstanding, strong and influential supporter of St Helena

a community that is so challenged; but will the Minister explain how he will convey people from BIOT to St Helena, given the travel difficulties, and tell us what conversations he has had with the Chief Minister and her Ministers about where these people will be accommodated, if they do arrive?

Minister Stephen Doughty

I thank my hon. Friend for her interest in St Helena, which has been long-standing. I understand that she visited the island recently, and I welcome her ongoing engagement with the people and the Government there. We have made it clear that we would support the transfer of anyone who did arrive, but let me reiterate that no one has actually arrived on BIOT since 2022. This is a contingency measure only, and, of course, it is not a safe place for people to attempt to go to. This is about closing that route and ensuring that if anyone did make that attempt, they could go to a safe place and be properly supported. The St Helena Government have made clear how they would accommodate and integrate people in that community.

Andrew Mitchell – Opposition Spokesperson for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs

What is the estimated number of migrants who will be sent there? Bearing in mind that the entire population is less than

Continued on PAGE 21

Mr Mervyn Yon receives the Church Lads Brigade Exemplary Service Medal



On Sunday 20th October 2024, Mr Mervyn Yon was presented with the Church Lads Brigade Exemplary Service Medal. Mr Yon was accompanied by his wife Muriel, son Russel Yon, daughter Alfreda Yon and granddaughter Willow Yon and other members of his family. The service was well attended with members of the Church Lads and Girls Brigade in attendance and former members of the Church Lads Brigade who had worked with Mr Yon. Mr Cynthia Bennett read the citation and Acting Governor Tasha Harris presented him with the Exemplary Service Medal certificate and Bishop Dale presented him with the medal and a letter from National Headquarters. Mr Yon was very humble and in very good spirit as he accepted his award. At the end of the service a group photo was taken with Mr Yon and Mrs Yon and all Church Lads and Girls Brigade, former members, Acting Governor Tasha Harris and Bishop Dale and serving team at St Paul's Cathedral.

Citation

Mr Mervyn Yon joined the St Paul's Company of the Church Lads' Brigade in 1972 aged 35 years, under the leadership of Captain Douglas Augustus. On the resignation of Mr Augustus, he was promoted to Captain of the Company and held a prominent position in this post for a period of 15 years. Throughout this time Mr Yon portrayed continuous dedication and commitment to the Company. He took on all of his duties very seriously and became a role model for his officers and the average of 47 members of the Brigade.

The Brigade on the Island had reduced to a stand-alone Company, but this did not deter Mr Yon, who was very passionate about what he did. Along with his wife, Muriel, they both had a genuine interest in all members. One project he

led every year was a 12-day annual camp which ended with open eucharist lead by the Bishop. A typical Seniors Corps programme included band practices, drilling (including rifle drill), first aid, morse code, semaphore and, of course, Church Duty lessons. Another evening is set aside for sports. His enthusiasm for the movement made him determined to expand his knowledge and contacts. Therefore in 2001, whilst in the UK on government business, he travelled to National Headquarters to meet the Governor and Brigade Council. This meeting was very much appreciated on both sides and Mr Yon made an instant good impression on these people.

Mr Yon ensured that he installed discipline into the Company, which allowed the members to gain a lot of respect and appreciation for his position, and above all in turn made a positive impact on the rest of their lives. This allowed the members to develop their social, moral and professional skills which has played a big part in making them better citizens. This applied to the officers currently in post who were greatly influenced by the leadership of Mr Yon and other officers. The positive effect it had on their lives, which has in turn motivated them into re-establishing the movement on the island in 2020. This was in order for our youngsters of today to gain the experience and personal benefits that they had received. When Mr Yon heard that the Brigade was restarting, he immediately offered his services in terms of advice, as well as passing on the residue funds of the former Company and equipment.

Mr Yon has been awarded the Exemplary Service Medal for his outstanding commitment and dedication to the Brigade for 30 years. Also for the positive impact he has been able to make on the lives of so many citizens of St Helena.



LATER OPENING AT MAIN BRANCH

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to advise customers that the Main Branch will open from **9:30am on Tuesday, 29 October**. Normal opening hours will resume on Wednesday, 30 October.

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



info@sainthelenabank.com



+290 22390



www.sainthelenabank.com



Market Street, Jamestown



@sainthelenabank



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



DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 27th October 2024 – 30th Sunday of the Year

8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Harvest Festival	St Andrew
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist/Harvest Festival	St Helena & The Cross
5.00 p.m.	Choral Evensong	Cathedral

The Parish of St James

Sunday 27th October 2024 – 30th Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Parade/Harvest Festival	St James
	Thursday 31st October	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John

The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 20th October 2024 – 30th Sunday of the Year

11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Matthew
	Tuesday 29th October	
7.00 p.m.	Reserved Sacrament	St Mark

The Seventh Day Adventist Church are having **Creation Sabbath**

Guinea Grass Community Centre
26th October 2024 9:30am-3pm

You are welcome to Come and Join us

PLEASE NOTE THE JT CHURCH WILL BE CLOSED ON THIS DAY



To Achieve and Inspire!

Annual General Meeting

2024

Notice is hereby given for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Parents Teachers Association of Prince Andrew School.

All Parents/ Guardians are Invited

AGM Agenda:

- Welcome to all Parents and apologies
- Confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM
- Matters Arising
- Alteration to Constitution
- Presentation by the Student Council
- Presentation on the Use of Technology - Chrome-Book Roll out
- Questions & Concerns - Parents
- Chairperson's Report
- Treasurer's Financial Report
- Dissolution of existing Executive Committee and election of new Executive Committee
- AOB



04 November 2024
06:30 - 08:30 PM



PAS- Lecture Hall Francis Plain

Note:

Refreshments will be provided

For Transport Arrangement

Email: wendy.fuller@sainthelena.edu.sh or
Call Wendy - 24290 ext: 209 or Kayleen - 24290 ext: 201

Advice to Migrants Seeking Refuge on the Chagos Islands

Issued by the British (not for very long)

Chagos Islands Public Relations Desk



Before stepping out of the boat, please look out for tropical fire ants. They have a bite which causes a severe allergic reaction and possibly death. There is also the Cane Toad. This creature secretes toxins from its skin which are poisonous to humans and animals. They are even poisonous as tadpoles so please be very careful if you want to get off the island alive.

There may be other creatures which can give an unwelcome bite or even squirt venom in your eyes. Who knows. Surveys of vertebrates, invertebrates, flora and fauna is far from comprehensive. One reason for this you are already aware of; it is so damn difficult to get to the Chagos Islands.

In the absence of running water, you will need to wash in the sea. It is probably also the safest place as a substitute for the non-existent toilet facilities. Remember to watch out for sharks when attending to personal hygiene.

Where to lie down to sleep is a problem. Probably the safest thing to do is to get into your boat and re-float it off-shore. It is probably best to avoid sleeping on the ground; remember the tropical fire ant and the cane toad! However, if you do decide to sleep in your boat, please take necessary precautions against shark attacks.

If you do decide to sleep on the ground, a thick bed of coconut palms is recommended. However thickly you pile the palms, it is not an attractive alternative to a proper bed but it will keep some of the creepy-crawlies away. We wish you pleasant dreams. Sleep well!

It is very likely coconut palms will be needed to form a roof to keep your living area dry, or at least less wet. There may be other suitable vegetation for this purpose. We don't know. Try and steer clear of anything that looks like it may have poisonous sap. But, the Chagos Islands does have a tropical cyclone season. No kind of roof or ground matting will keep you dry. Climbing a coconut palm to keep dry would be suggested but wind speeds during tropical cyclones can gust to 70 mph and beyond. Clinging to the top of a coconut palm is not the safest place to be. Just stay on the ground and cling to a coconut palm – one with a deep, strong root system, otherwise you might find yourself underneath when the cyclone uproots it.

Camping out on the beach is another alternative to consider. It may be safer than among thick jungle vegetation and all those creep-crawlies that live among it. Please don't forget some insects might live in the sand. No-one knows yet exactly what lives on the beach with you. Hopefully you remembered to take a few cans of Doom with you.

Also, there may be snakes on some Chagos Islands but no-one is sure which islands and what type of snakes. What is known is that snakes have been caught when incoming cargo is inspected at the US military base on Diego Garcia. It is reasonable to assume that some snakes were not caught and have sneaked in. Something should be done about it but nobody has made a fuss about stowaway migrant snakes – only humans.

IMPORTANT ADVICE – Do not attempt to land at Diego Garcia. If you do, you may never get off that island.

What you will find to eat (that will not kill you) nobody knows. There could be some edible roots or tubers. And there are the rats. Rats love coconut palms. When the resident population was kicked off the Chagos Islands the rats scampered about and took over the place. So avoid them if you can. When trying to find food always remember the rats could have got there first. You could get rat fever (Weils disease). You will know if you have got it by having one or more of these symptoms; high fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, red eyes, muscle aches (especially thigh and calf muscles), rash, chills and / or headache.

We wish you a wonderful time on our beautiful Chagos Islands. One day we may find you, hopefully alive, and will take you off to St Helena. You will like it there; no venomous ants or poisonous toads, no snakes or cyclones and they have only a few rats – compared to the Chagos Islands. Please note that going to St Helena is a time limited special offer. By the time we find you the special offer may have finished. If the offer has ended the Mauritius Authorities will take care of you – we hope. Please have your passport ready.

We hope to welcome you back again soon



Advice to Migrants Seeking Refuge on the Chagos Islands

Issued by the British (not for very long)

Chagos Islands Public Relations Desk

Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor,

Last week's announcement from SHG with respect to the BIOT deal with HMG, left the island stunned. Naturally, tongues and fingers kicked into action as we all tried to get to grips with what was happening. Information was going to be key in helping us the community understand why our government had made this decision.

Before any such information could be even shared, we were treated to yet another episode of the 'Turner Thrower Show'. Both Councillors submitted quick-fire letters to this newspaper

shortly after the announcement was made. They did not bother to collect the facts first, which was evident by the heavy speculation which was rife throughout both letters. This begs to question their actual intent and whether the public's interest really is at the heart of their actions. Politicians who only appear, just to prey on contentious public issues and then disappear until the next one, seldom are motivated by anything else other than a personal political agenda.

Chief Minister Thomas and Minister Ellick have now been on radio answering questions and providing clarity. The MoU has been publicly shared along with the letter from UK Minister Doughty. The sum of all of this does suggest that our Ministerial Team, has in fact stuck a good deal for the community. The same values used to guide them when they made the decision to open the island, is also present in this decision. Security first, benefits after.

Turner and Thrower must now realise that

our boarder security, and thawed UK state pensions all in a single deal. Councillors Turner and Thrower believe that the way to respond to this is to have the Chief Minister removed just because she and her team wanted to stand 100% accountable!

Perhaps the next letter these Councillors could publish should be to tell us what THEY have achieved in the last 3 years. It has cost us £120K to keep them employed, let's see what we have received in return.

To get this island moving we need Ministers with next-level-courage, willing to take decisive action based on calculated risk when necessary. What we don't need are Politicians looking to duck behind the community every time there might be a threat to vote numbers if a contentious decision is afoot. In these challenging times I place more importance on what my leaders are achieving - the more success the greater the trust.

Contributed

COUNCILLOR ROBERT MIDWINTER TO ATTEND COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION EVENT

Councillor Robert Midwinter will depart the island on Saturday 19 October to attend a Legislative Strengthening Seminar to Address Gender-Based Violence and Modern Slavery in Supply Chains. This seminar has been organised by the CPA UK and will be held in London. It acts as a follow-on session to the seminar which Councillor Midwinter attended in November 2023 however on this particular occasion he has been invited to participate as a panelist during one of the sessions. As with the previous seminar held in Nairobi, Kenya, costs relating to his attendance at the seminar are fully funded by external sources. Whilst in London, Councillor Midwinter will also be undertaking meetings in relation to other items of interest to St Helena.

Councillor Midwinter is scheduled to return to the island on Saturday 2 November. Whilst away he is still contactable via email at cldr.midwinter@helanta.co.sh, and Councillor Ronald Coleman has kindly agreed to also cover St Paul's District Area during this period, contactable via Ronald.Coleman@helanta.co.sh.

The Hon Cyril Gunnell, Speaker of the St Helena Legislative Council said:

It is pleasing that our Elected Members, when opportunity presents, responds positively. Not only will our representative bring to the seminar St Helena's perspective in this matter but also the interaction with CPA colleagues will provide valuable information to assist dialogue here on island.

Legislative Council
17 October 2024



FOREIGN COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT TEAM TO VISIT ST HELENA TO ASSESS PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION

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As announced in July this year, the Primary Education Review is considering various options, including:

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During their week-long stay, the FCDO team will visit all three primary schools, interacting with pupils, staff, parents, and community members. They will also meet with key stakeholders, including Chief Minister Julie Thomas, Chief

Secretary Susan O'Bey, Acting Governor Tasha Harris, recent graduates, Chevening Scholars, the Education Review Stakeholder Group, the Autism Parents Support Group, and the St Helena Youth Parliament.

These engagements will provide valuable insights into the current state of primary education buildings, their suitability to meet our declining pupil numbers, their suitability against the COBIS standards framework and gather stakeholder opinions on the education system. This information will help identify potential areas for improvement and ensure that St Helena's primary education system meets the needs of its young people and contributes to the island's overall development.

#StHelena #EducationReview #FCDO
www.facebook.com/StHelenaGovt/
www.twitter.com/StHelenaGovt

SHG
24 October 2024



Latest on MACS Shipping Schedule

MACS Shipping issued a revised St Helena schedule on 10th September showing the MV Karoline arriving early December instead of late November as previously scheduled. Any more slippage in the schedule and there would be a terrible tangle with some cargo for Christmas getting into the shops on time. The next voyage had the Karoline leaving Cape Town on Christmas Eve and arriving here on New Year's Eve. Not much cargo on that ship – we can guess.

A further revised schedule dated 17th September showed the December arrival of the Karoline had slipped two more days, arriving on 5th December. Strangely, it is scheduled to depart Cape Town a day earlier than on the previous schedule. But the 'ghost ship' scheduled to sail over Christmas / New Year



had finally been laid to rest. The January sailing from Cape Town was brought forward five days instead. The latest updated schedule was issued on Tuesday this week and includes departures from Cape Town up to 6th April.

MV Karoline Arrivals as at 22nd October '24

Cape Town	14 Oct 2024	2 Nov 2024	25 Nov 2024	12 Jan 2025	9 Feb 2025	9 Mar 2025	6 Apr 2025
Rupert's	21 Oct 2024	9 Nov 2024	5 Dec 2024	19 Jan 2025	16 Feb 2025	16 Mar 2025	13 Apr 2025
Ascension			10 Dec 2024				

MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

TUESDAY 29th OCTOBER 2024

The Fifteenth meeting of Ministers Question Time will take place on Tuesday 29th October 2024 at 10:00 in the Council Chamber. This meeting is open to the public and will be broadcast live via SAMS Radio 1.

The topic for this meeting is '**Public Relations and Communications**'.

A copy of the Order Paper will be published on the SHG Website on Tuesday morning, and can be accessed via www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/legislative-council/order-papers/.

Legislative Council
22nd October 2024





St Helena
Government

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sustainable-development/property/](https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/portfolios/treasury-infrastructure-and-sustainable-development/property/)

**Closing date for
applications:**

Monday 02

December 2024

12 noon

CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH 2024

MAKE STRONG PASSWORDS

The stronger your passwords the harder it is for a hacker to crack them and access your accounts. Make them at least 12 characters long with upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols.

USE A VPN

A virtual private network (VPN) encrypts your internet connection, making it more secure, especially when using public Wi-Fi. This makes it difficult for attackers to intercept your data.

BACK UP YOUR DATA

Making a back-up or copy of your data gives you peace of mind that even if your data is lost or stolen, you can easily recover it because it's saved somewhere else e.g. Hard Drive, OneDrive etc.

USE 2FA

2 Factor authentication (2FA) adds an extra layer of security on top of your normal password. Using a password and a PIN code is the most common 2FA method. This can be easily set-up on your email and social media accounts in your security settings.

USE SECURE WEBSITES

Only use websites with HTTPS at the start of the URL, usually indicated with a padlock icon. This means all data transmitted via this website is encrypted and secure. This is vital for sites that send sensitive information e.g. credit card details etc.

AVOID PUBLIC WI-FI

Avoid using free Wi-Fi or internet hot spots unless 100% necessary. If you do use free Wi-Fi, use a VPN or avoid sending or receiving sensitive information. Hackers can easily intercept data transmitted over these networks.

ENCRYPT YOUR FILES

File encryption scrambles data so that only those who have the key can unscramble it to access it. This safeguards data from hacking or unauthorised access and ensures that even if data is stolen, no one else can access it.

DON'T OVERSHARE

Be careful what you share online, especially via social media. By posting your personal info. you make it easier for criminals to learn things about you, which they can then use to guess your passwords, usernames, PIN numbers etc.

PROTECT YOUR DATA: KEEP YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION PERSONAL



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INTERNAL AUDITOR



Bank of St Helena Ltd is seeking a suitably qualified and experienced Internal Auditor, or an Internal Audit Service Provider. The successful person / contractor must:

- Be self-motivated;
- Have excellent communication skills;
- Have relevant auditing experience (preferably in a banking environment); and
- Ideally have a recognised qualification in internal auditing and/or finance and accountancy.

The main purpose of contract is to manage and execute the Internal Audit function, coordinating specific processes to support the implementation and execution of the Internal Audit Plan, conducting reviews on risk management and systems of internal control, monitoring compliance with statutory requirements and the Bank's policies and procedures, along with the preparation and presentation of audit findings and recommendations.

The service provision is expected to be for a minimum of 14 hours per week, where a flexible working time system is permissible.

For further information about this position and payment offered, please contact LeeAnne Henry, Assistant Managing Director, on telephone number (+290) 22044 or email: asst.managingdirector@sainthelenabank.com.

Expressions of interests should be submitted to LeeAnne Henry, Assistant Managing Director, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to asst.managingdirector@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for Expressions of Interest is Monday, 28th October 2024



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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



info@sainthelenabank.com



www.sainthelenabank.com



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



+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Bank Teller

Commencing at £8,796 per annum

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

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

The main duties of the post include:

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

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

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

Closing date for applications is Friday, 08 November 2024.

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



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Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Risk and Compliance Officer

Commencing at £10,188 per annum

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

Reporting to the Assistant Risk and Compliance Manager, the Risk and Compliance Officer will be required to assist with risk and compliance reviews. The Risk and Compliance Officer will also assess and evaluate internal policies and procedures, and identify risk areas across the Bank's portfolio.

In addition, the Risk and Compliance Officer will be required to assist with the organisation and delivery of workshops and training sessions that will educate and update employees on banking regulations, policies, and processes when required.

The successful candidate must have understanding of Anti-Money Laundering policies and practices, knowledge of fraud prevention and detection processes, and be able to provide assistance with the alignment of the Bank's operations to regulatory and statutory requirements.

Skills and experience the candidate should have:

- Relevant experience in Banking/Finance, Auditing and/or Risk Management
- GCSE's in Mathematics and English at Grade C or above
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Have good analytical and problem solving skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills

Interested persons can contact Miss Christy Joshua, Risk and Compliance Manager on + 290 22390 or email risk.compliancemanager@sainthelenabank.com for more information.

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

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+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

Join us!
We are recruiting...



**St Helena
Government**

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

**Dental Receptionist (Fixed term until 09
December 2025)
(£7,960 per annum)**

The Dental Department is seeking to recruit a personable Dental Receptionist who cares about providing excellent care to patients in the practice or by telephone. You will have all the attributes required to provide a high-quality service to patients and understand the support the team needs, including good telephone etiquette, organizational skills and customer service skills. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Charmaine Buckley-Thomas on Tel No. 25387 or
Email: charmaine.buckley@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 30 October 2024

**Biosecurity Assistant
(£9,197 per annum)**

The Biosecurity Assistant is responsible for the effective implementation of the division's biosecurity programme and assisting with border operations in collaboration with the Pest Control Services team. If you have a keen interest in border security and would like to be a part of the Biosecurity team then this could be a rewarding opportunity for you. Candidates who do not have the required experience/qualifications will be eligible to start on a training grade. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Julie Balchin on Tel No. 24724 or
Email: julie.balchin@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 30 October 2024

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

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

Enquiries: Patricia Williams Tel No. 24737 or
Email: patricia.williams@primary.edu.sh

Closing date: 05 November 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/vacancies 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

Fire Fighter - Permanent (£9,711 per annum)

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

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Jason Lawrence on Tel No. 23344 or
Email: stno.fire@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: 05th November 2024

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

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

Contact us for further information and a discussion.

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

Closing Date: 08 November 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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Join us!
We are recruiting...



**St Helena
Government**

**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: 08 November 2024

**Casual Workers – Social Care
Rate of Pay: (£4.46 per hour)**

Social Care is seeking to recruit Casual Workers to provide quality care and support to those in care. You will be required to communicate and interact fully with both adults and children to ensure their protection and promote their welfare. Please note that as Casual Workers you will only be entitled to receive payment for the hours worked. Annual leave etc. will not apply. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

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

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.

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Join us!
We are recruiting...



**St Helena
Government**

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

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

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Hannah Herne on 23230 or 23151 or
Email hannah.herne@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 05 November 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: 08 November 2024

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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INVITATION TO TENDER

RUPERT'S CARGO HANDLING FACILITY - ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION IN PORT CONTROL, CUSTOMS AND BIO-SECURITY YARD AND BREAK BULK YARD

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

CS-1832-SHG – Rupert's Cargo Handling Facility - Electrical Installation in Port Control, Customs and Bio-Security Yard and Break Bulk Yard

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 24 October 2024 at 09:00, meeting at the car park of the Sea Rescue 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 01 November 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG, 16 October 2024



Vacancy

Road Tanker Driver/Relief Watchkeeper

Salary for the post will commence at £10,184 per annum (£196 per week)



Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Bulk Fuel Installation for a Road Tanker Driver/Relief Watchkeeper.

As the Road Tanker Driver/Relief Watchkeeper, you will be responsible for the loading and delivery of fuels to clients, provide support to the Watchkeepers as and when required, assist with general maintenance duties and also assist with Ship-to-Shore Tanker operations.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be in possession of a clean & valid drivers' licence in class J4
- Have basic competency in Maths & English
- Be able to work unsocial hours, including shift work
- Have Health & Safety awareness in a fuels environment
- Ideally be knowledgeable of the safe handling of fuels
- Be comfortable to work in a hazardous environment and deal with hazardous substances
- Ideally have the ability to perform general maintenance duties

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

Mr Paul Ellick, BFI Manager via 22332 bfi@helanta.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hadmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **31 October 2024**.

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

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

Footie Gossip + Fixtures

Manchester City are interested in Sweden forward Viktor Gyokeres, Xavi wants to take Raphinha from Barcelona if he becomes Manchester United boss, Antony the subject of Dutch interest.

Manchester City are eyeing a move for Sporting and Sweden striker Viktor Gyokeres, 26, as a long-term replacement for Erling Haaland (see below)

Pep Guardiola has asked **Manchester City** to pursue **RB Leipzig** defender Castello Lukeba, 21, with the City boss keen to bring in the Frenchman next summer.



Former **Barcelona** boss Xavi wants to take the Catalan club's 27-year-old Brazil winger Raphinha to Old Trafford if he replaces Erik ten Hag as **Manchester United** manager.

Manchester United's Brazilian winger Antony, 27, could be offered a route out of Old Trafford by his former club **Ajax**, but the Dutch giants are said to have some reservations about a deal.

However, United are willing to let Antony leave on loan in January and have been contacted by multiple Premier League clubs about his availability. **Manchester United** are targeting a trio of young players including **River Plate**'s 17-year-old Argentine midfielder Franco Mastantuono.

Aston Villa are set to offer 20-year-old Polish goalkeeper Oliwier Zych a new contract amid reported interest from **Arsenal** and **Brighton**.

Barcelona are tracking **River Plate**'s 16-year-old Argentine attacker Felipe Esquivel.

Barcelona and **Arsenal** are both firmly interested in 20-year-old Colombia and **Aston Villa** striker Jhon Duran, and the Gunners could be better placed to sign him.

Real Madrid are planning to offer **Liverpool** and England right-back Trent Alexander-Arnold a contract in the range of £14m-15m per year until the 2029-30 season. The 26-year-old is out of contract at Anfield next summer. **Real Madrid** are also eyeing a move for Lukeba, who has also attracted interest from **Liverpool** and **Manchester United**, with the French defender understood to have a £75m release clause in his new contract.

Newcastle are willing to listen to offers for 25-year-old English midfielder Joe Willock in January.

England midfielder Jordan Henderson, 34, is set to see out the season with **Ajax** even though he has not yet found a home in Amsterdam and is keen on a move to former club **Sunderland**.

Brighton are set to battle **Eintracht Frankfurt** for **Red Star Belgrade** attacking midfielder Andrija Maksimovic, with the 17-year-old Serbia international reluctant to move to **Liverpool** or **Manchester City** so soon in his career.

PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES FOR THIS WEEKEND...

Saturday 26th October:

Aston Villa	1400 hrs	AFC Bournemouth
Brentford	"	Ipswich Town
Brighton & Hove Albion	"	Wolverhampton Wanderers
Manchester City	"	Southampton
Everton	1630 hrs	Fulham

Sunday 27th October:

Chelsea	1300 hrs	Newcastle United
Crystal Palace	"	Tottenham Hotspur
West Ham United	"	Manchester United
Arsenal	1530 hrs	Liverpool

Continued from PAGE 5

5,000, will the Minister impose a limit—admittedly low, but nevertheless a limit?

Minister Stephen Doughty

Let me reiterate, however, that no migrants have arrived on BIOT since 2022. This is a contingency arrangement that is absolutely necessary, but of course we hope that no one will choose to take such a dangerous route.

James MacCleary MP – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson

What will happen to the individuals who have been moved to St Helena after 18 months elapse? We cannot just abandon them.

Minister Stephen Doughty

Under the arrangement, if any migrants arrive on BIOT in the future, they will be transferred to St Helena. They will remain free to depart, and to return to their country of origin, but they will not be able to stay on BIOT. St Helena would take responsibility for accommodating those individuals and, if appropriate, processing asylum claims.

Dr Scott Arthur

Who will ultimately be responsible for people when they find themselves in St Helena?

Minister Stephen Doughty

Fundamentally, as a result of this agreement, St Helena has agreed to take responsibility for any theoretical migrants who arrive, but I draw him back to what I said earlier: Mauritius would take responsibility for any migrants who arrived after the agreement of the treaty, which we will seek to finalise following parliamentary scrutiny.

Elaine Stewart MP

Does the Minister agree that the UK's new agreement with Mauritius will close a potentially dangerous illegal migrant route?

Minister Stephen Doughty

BIOT is not a suitable place for migrants to be present. There is no permanent population and there are not the necessary education and health facilities. That is why we needed to put in place that part of our agreement with Mauritius: to ensure that during the interim, contingency period, were any migrants to arrive—as I said, none have arrived since 2022—they could go to a place where there were hospitals, education, and an economy and a community to support them. We thank St Helena for its help in this matter.

Sir Julian Lewis

I accept what the Minister says—that there have been no immigration arrivals since 2022—but does he accept in turn that there is a danger of creating a pull factor? If that hap-

pens, and a much larger number arrive than expected, will he put a cap on the number that can be transferred to St Helena?

Minister Stephen Doughty

That is exactly why we have concluded these agreements with Mauritius and St Helena. BIOT is not a suitable place for migrants to be present; there is no permanent population and there are no suitable facilities. We are taking these steps to close down that route and ensure that people do not make that dangerous journey.

Dr Andrew Murrison MP

Since no migrants have arrived in BIOT since 2022, and given that this agreement lapses after 18 months, what is the problem that the Minister is trying to solve?

Minister Stephen Doughty

This is prudent contingency planning. Unfortunately, we inherited a situation from the previous Government where many holes had been left in these very arrangements and where there were significant problems. We are now taking steps to pragmatically address that.

Jeremy Corbyn MP

Can the Minister explain why the applications for refugee status made by people who have come to the British Indian Ocean Territory, as it is currently called, cannot be processed now? Why is he instead taking them to St Helena? Will he guarantee that St Helena is not going to become an offshore base for Britain to evade its international human rights obligations by simply sending large numbers of refugees there in the future?

Minister Stephen Doughty

I do not agree with the right hon. Gentleman's characterisation of St Helena. It is a wonderful place with wonderful people, and its Government have voluntarily entered this agreement. It is obviously a much more suitable place, were people theoretically to arrive, than BIOT, which is not suitable. I am very confident that all our processes comply with international law.

Lee Anderson MP

If illegal migrants arriving in St Helena are granted asylum, does that mean they can then apply to come to the UK? If so, does that not create another market for people smugglers?

Minister Stephen Doughty

No, absolutely not. There is no automatic right for them to travel from St Helena to the UK. St Helena will undertake the processing of any cases in a proper way. Of course, anyone who fails to get a positive decision will be removed. St Helena will process them, but there is no automatic right to come to the UK. As with any overseas territory, people will be able to apply for British overseas territory citizenship after a period of time, but it is not automatic.

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Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP

The Minister has repeated several times this afternoon that no migrants have gone to BIOT in the last two years. He studiously avoided answering my right hon. Friend, the shadow Foreign Secretary's important question about how many migrants he is providing contingency for. In order to calculate the £6.5 million, he must know how many migrants are likely to go to St Helena—or not, as the case may be. Will he now tell the House what that number is, and will he publish the full impact assessment?

Minister Stephen Doughty

Like most people, I do not have a crystal ball. Our expectation, based on the evidence, is that hopefully nobody will make that journey because it is dangerous and BIOT is not a suitable place for migrants. However, it is only right that we put contingency arrangements in place were anyone to do so before any treaty is concluded with Mauritius, which will then take responsibility for dealing with any migrant arrivals.
Relationship Between UK and St Helena

Minister Stephen Doughty – Minister for the Overseas Territories

On 15 October, a new memorandum of understanding was reached with the Government of St Helena so that any new migrants arriving in the interim period will be transferred to St Helena. The intention is for that agreement to last until the treaty with Mauritius comes into force, recalling that, in practice, no new migrants have arrived on Diego Garcia since 2022.

We are hugely grateful to the St Helena Government for their assistance. Their Chief Minister has said:

“This arrangement presents a unique opportunity for a British Overseas Territory to be in a position to assist the UK, and we are pleased to be able to work in close partnership with the UK Government towards a mutually beneficial solution.”
The UK Government have agreed to provide one-off funding of £6.65 million to St Helena to improve health and education outcomes, and upgrade government infrastructure. This is consistent with our long-term support to the community in St Helena, which is of course crucial. This is a long-term, consistent partnership. We will support St Helena by providing technical support, and funding the transfer and subsistence costs for any migrants affected. Of course, this is not the first time that St Helena has supported the wider UK family. The agreement is testament to its integral place in our family. We thank it for its support.

I have not had a chance to visit it, but I have had a chance to experience its culture, food and people, and I look forward to welcoming the Chief Minister to the Joint Ministerial Council in due course.

Andrew Mitchell MP

Mr Speaker. I may be one of the only Members to have had the privilege of visiting St Helena, along with the hon. Member for Hackney North and Shoreditch— Meg Hillier MP.

Mr Speaker (Lindsay Hoyle) - I have.

Andrew Mitchell MP

And you, of course, Mr Speaker. We may have been the only Members to survey the island's new airport, which will in time relieve the British taxpayer of cost and open up the island to a very bright future, with connectivity massively enhanced.



The House of Commons on Monday. Minister Stephen Doughty (foreground, back to camera) faces Opposition MPs, seated opposite. The MPs standing are ‘trying to catch the Speakers eye’ to be called next to ask a question. Andrew Mitchell is seated directly opposite Stephen Doughty.

‘Win – Win’ and ‘Pragmatic and Practical’

Jonathan Davies MP

I welcome the Government's commitment to St Helena. Does the Minister agree that the comparisons with the Rwanda scheme that have been made throughout this urgent question are irresponsible and unhelpful, given that it cost £700 million and sent only four volunteers?

Minister Stephen Doughty

My hon. Friend is absolutely right. There is no comparison with the £700 million of taxpayers' money that was spent on four volunteers, as the Home Secretary just set out. This is a sensible, win-win, beneficial agreement that benefits both the United Kingdom and St Helena and involves potentially very few people.

Andrew Mitchell MP

Conservative Members do not oppose the principle of offshoring, but we are perplexed by the Government's choice of destination, a small British overseas territory thousands of miles from Diego Garcia, not least because a number of asylum seekers who landed on the British Indian Ocean Territory have already been transferred to Rwanda.



Continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

Minister Stephen Doughty

I am surprised that he is perplexed, because he and his fellow Ministers were grappling with these very decisions and issues in the last Government. We are providing pragmatic and practical solutions to respond to the situation that we inherited. There is no comparison with the Rwanda scheme. He will have just heard the Home Secretary say that spending £700 million of taxpayers' money resulted in four volunteers for that scheme. This is a mutually beneficial win-win agreement between the United Kingdom and one of our overseas territories.

I have to say that the Government inherited a mess, and we are taking pragmatic, sensible and proactive measures to address the situation. I am hugely grateful to St Helena for the role it is playing. This is a mutually beneficial win-win. The hon. Gentleman asked where the funds will come from. They will come from the FCDO. We already have a long-term established partnership with St Helena, and it has hugely welcomed this plan. It will help it to deal with a number of ongoing issues. I have set out the details fully. The full details of the agreement are also available from the St Helena Government.

SHG-UKG Publish Terms of the Chagos Agreement

On Wednesday the terms of agreement, called a Memorandum of Understanding, was published jointly by SHG and UKG. Last week the word was it would not be made public. Many of the terms of agreement are well known, having been explained on radio news and discussions as well as in the Independent.

Below are the main points in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

- 1. The arrangement operates for the mutual benefit of the United Kingdom and St Helena with due regard for the welfare of migrants and the national interest of St Helena.
2. UKG accepts responsibility for arranging the safe and lawful transfer of migrants to St Helena.
3. UKG ensures that St Helena has appropriate capacity and capability to establish and implement the arrangement.
4. As the sovereign state, the UK retains ultimate responsibility for compliance with international obligations as they apply to St Helena.
5. While in accepting the arrangement at the request of the Government of the United Kingdom, both UKG and SHG recognise the innovative character of this arrangement. UKG will indemnify SHG in relation to this arrangement and will prioritise the resolution of outstanding issues and SHG reserves the right to suspend or terminate this arrangement in line with this arrangement.
6. Under the arrangement, UKG accepts complete re-



sponsibility for the safety and lawfulness of relocating claimants from BIOT to St Helena, which is undertaken by the BIOT Administration.

- 7. SHG will assume responsibility for the welfare of migrants upon arrival in St Helena including any conditions to be attached to their residence, provided that the reception of migrants and integration into the community does not lead to civil unrest. In that event, UKG will provide the resources to address the issues and the arrangement will then fall to be reviewed or terminated if unresolvable.
8. In recognition of the financial constraints on the budget of SHG, UKG will ensure that this arrangement will not become a financial burden on St Helena.
9. The Participants acknowledge that UKG will provide the additional infrastructure and human capacity to establish and maintain the operability of this arrangement.
10. Under this arrangement SHG will take responsibility, with support from the UKG, for:
i processing any claims for asylum or international protection,
ii providing support, including accommodation, to migrants seeking asylum or international protection;
iii granting appropriate rights to remain to any migrants to whom it grants refugee status or international protection;
iv removing to their country of origin any migrants whose refugee or international protection claims are refused, in line with the law of St. Helena and relevant international obligations, as applicable.
11. In the event of any difference of opinion or difficulty encountered over the operation of this arrangement, the participants will seek to resolve the issue speedily and candidly through mutual discussion. In the event that the issue remains unresolved, it will be escalated by either participant to

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ministerial level for swift resolution.

12. The arrangement will endure for a period not exceeding 18 months once operational unless sooner terminated. Any extension will be jointly decided. Both sides will work together to put in place the necessary practical arrangements ahead of the transfer of any migrants.

13. This arrangement may be terminated for any reason by either Participant on 6 months notice, to be given in writing.

14. Should this arrangement present challenges to SHG which prove beyond resolution by either SHG or UKG, SHG may suspend this arrangement with immediate effect by giving written notice to UKG.

15. In the event of either suspension or termination SHG will continue to process any pending asylum or protection claims, in accordance with the law of St. Helena and in accordance with obligations of the Participants under international law.

At the end of the MOU are two lists called Requirements and Requests.

One list has the following: -

TO SUPPORT ST HELENA'S LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT

Clear overseas health referral waiting list which is impacting on SHG's ability to focus on preventative health strategy (£1.65m)

Support for implementation of Strategic Priorities discussed during 2023/24 Financial Aid Mission (indicative amounts)

- Education (£2m)
- Health (£1.5m)
- IT (£1.5m)

Thawing of UK state pension freeze (c. 20 individuals)

A mechanism for ensuring St Helena's social/economic sustainability should St Helena cease to be eligible for ODA. The other list includes legal support and foreign language sup-



port as well as some points which are familiar because they have repeated often. One item on the list included further remedial works to Bradleys Camp.

CRITICAL TO IMPLEMENTATION

Capital investment, logistical support and security if required, to ensure basic infrastructure is in place (remedial works to Bradleys Camp)

It is not clear from the lists what is a Requirement and what is a Request.

NOTIFICATION MEETING OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AUTHORITY

"The Land Development Control Authority will hold its monthly meeting on **Thursday, 7th November 2024, at 10 am in the St Helena Community College Main Hall, Jamestown.**

Meetings of the Authority are open to members of the public, applicants and objectors.

The Agenda and redacted version of the Handling Reports will be available on the LDCA Web Page of the SHG Web Site. Should you require assistance, please contact the Secretary of the Land Development Control Authority on telephone number 24724.

Applicants and objectors may speak at the meeting providing that a summary of the points to be raised has been submitted to the Secretary at least 24 hours before the meeting".

EXTERIOR PAINTING OF THE MARKET

Funding has been approved under the Tourism Development Project for the exterior painting of The Market in Jamestown.

Ambledale Workshop Ltd will be carrying out the works, which are due to commence on Tuesday 22 October 2024.

The Market will remain open, therefore the public are asked to be mindful of the works being carried out and to adhere to the signage in place.

SHG, 21 October 2024



MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

TUESDAY 29th OCTOBER 2024

The Fifteenth meeting of Ministers Question Time will take place on Tuesday 29th October 2024 at 10:00 in the Council Chamber. This meeting is open to the public and will be broadcast live via SAMS Radio 1.

The topic for this meeting is 'Public Relations and Communications'.

A copy of the Order Paper will be published on the SHG Website on Tuesday morning, and can be accessed via www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/legislative-council/order-papers/.

Legislative Council
22nd October 2024

JOB VACANCY AT THORPE'S October 2024



STOREMAN-DELIVERY DRIVER

TO WORK IN THE WHOLESALE STORE

- Free home to duty transport
- Opportunity to progress and also to gain forklift license
- C license (small truck) is helpful

Contact Carol Yon on 22781, admin@thorpes.sh, Thorpe's Office, Market Street

PROPERTY FOR SALE

2 BEDROOM REFURBISHED
Semi detached BUNGALOW
Barrack sq , Jamestown

WITH VACANT PROCESSION

£130,000 open to sensible offers.

For details /photos
e-mail keithellick@gmail.com
or phone 22893

The UK in the 1950s – 60s.

The original Chat Room, with an earlier version of Windows



TEACHING CPR AND AED USE AT PRINCE ANDREW SCHOOL FOR 'RESTART A HEART DAY 2024'

The paramedic team from the Health and Social Care Portfolio taught life-saving cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) skills to 33 Year 9 students at Prince Andrew School on Wednesday 16 October, marking 'Restart a Heart Day 2024'. This global initiative aims to raise awareness about cardiac arrest and the importance of early intervention.

'Restart a Heart Day' takes place worldwide every year on 16 October, encouraging as many people as possible to learn how to perform CPR and use an AED. Immediate action from bystanders during cardiac emergencies can more than double survival rates.

The paramedic team plans to deliver this CPR training annually to every Year 9 group, ensuring that young people across the island are equipped with the knowledge and confidence to act in an emergency.

Special thanks go to Head Teacher, Phil Toal, and the teaching staff at Prince Andrew School for their help in organising the event.

In support of this initiative, the public are reminded of the locations of AEDs across the island:

District	Location
Half Tree Hollow	Half Tree Hollow Clinic (Outside of the main entrance)
St Paul's	The Pavilion (Green Shed) at Francis Plain
Levelwood	Silver Hill Shop (Outside)
Blue Hill	Blue Hill Community Centre (Outside)
Sandy Bay	Bamboo Hedge Shop (Outside)
Rupert's	Sea Rescue Building (Outside the main entrance)
Longwood	Royal St Helena Police Post (Outside)
Jamestown	Customs Building (Near Immigration Office entrance)
Jamestown	Royal St Helena Police Service (Reception)



If you need access to an AED, the code to unlock the cabinet can be provided by the Emergency Control Centre when you dial 999. Don't worry if you are unsure about performing CPR – the emergency call handlers are trained to guide callers step-by-step through life-saving interventions.

For further information, please contact Emergency Operations Manager, Michael Gaga-Hale, at 22500.




Join the fight!

CARNIVAL 2024



Be a **WARRIOR**

Wear a costume or colour
of your choice and join
the carnival parade 

Prizes for best costume 0-5yr old, 6-11yr old, 12-15yr old, 16 upwards

Saturday 26 October 2024

Meet at the Maldivia Car park near the Hospital by 2:30pm

The Carnival Parade starts at 3pm

**Watch as brave warriors have their legs waxed or head shaved
in a hair raising challenge after the Parade.**

Transport

Colins Garage bus service will run at 1pm from
Sandy Bay Chapel via White Gate 13:20 New Ground/HTH 13:25

Johnny Isaac bus service will depart 13:00
from the following areas and pick up enroute to Jamestown
-Bottom Woods, Longwood
-The Flag, Levelwood

All buses return: Depart Jamestown Malabar at 7:30pm

Venue: Grand Parade

Open from 12noon

Bouncy castle

Tea & Cakes

Hot food

Bar and Stalls

DJ Colin Peters

All donations collected on behalf of the St Helena Cancer Support & Awareness Charity.

From the St Helena Golf Club

Report by SHGC

On the 20th of October, a total of twenty-two players participated in the monthly medal golf competition. The weather conditions were mild, which contributed to some impressive scores throughout the day.

Among the competitors, eleven players notably scored in the seventies, showcasing their skills and competitive spirit. However, none could surpass the overall winner of the competition, Martin Cranfield, who delivered an exceptional performance with a net score of 68. This score reflects his ability to navigate the course effectively and capitalize on scoring opportunities.

Following closely behind in second place was Laura Buckley, who also had a commendable round with a net score of 69. Her steady play not only secured her a top position but also highlighted her consistency throughout the competition. Congratulations are due to both Martin Cranfield and Laura Buckley for their outstanding performances.

In addition to the top scores, there were two notable "2's" recorded during the competition. Both Laura Buckley and Eddy Bowers achieved this feat on the 7th green. Their successful shots earned them a share of the balls from the two-ball pool, adding an extra layer of excitement to their rounds.

In summary, this month's medal competition showcased strong performances from all participants and set an exciting tone for upcoming events at the club.

Looking ahead, next week on October 27th, there will be a Turkey & Ham Stableford Competition. Players interested in participating can find the sign-up sheet posted on the notice board at the clubhouse. Additionally, they can leave their names on the answering machine by calling either 24421 or 25848.

Happy swinging.....!

ST. HELENA



GOLF CLUB

