



St Helena  
Government

ST HELENA GOVERNMENT  
ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Laid on the Table 5th December 2024



**Financial Statements  
for the year ended  
31 March 2024**

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# St Helena National Trust

Charity Number C00010

## Entity Information

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### Trust Council

Neil Fantom	-	President
Michel Dancoisene-Martineau	-	Vice President
Christy Joshua	-	Treasurer
Vince Thompson	-	Secretary
Cllr Andrew Turner	-	Legislative Council Member
Adam Sizeland	-	Heritage Society
Lourens Malan	-	SHCG
Kimberly Peters	-	Member
Tracey Williams	-	Member

### Trust Director

Helena Bennett

### Registered office

Broadway House  
Main Street  
Jamestown  
St Helena Island  
South Atlantic Ocean  
STHL 1ZZ

### Contact details

PO Box 113  
Jamestown  
St Helena Island  
STHL 1ZZ  
Telephone +290 22190  
Website – [www.trust.org.sh](http://www.trust.org.sh)

### Auditor

Sayer Vincent LLP  
110 Golden Lane  
London  
EC1Y 0TG

### Bankers

Bank of St Helena  
Market Street  
Jamestown  
St Helena Island

# St Helena National Trust

## Directors' Report For the year ended 31 March 2024

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### Objectives and Activities

Our vision: "St Helena's heritage for all, forever."

Our mission: "Championing the conservation of St Helena's built, cultural, and natural heritage, through evidence-based proactive management, engagement, and partnerships"

The Trust has the following purposes:

- To promote the appreciation, protection and enhancement of St Helena's unique environmental and culture heritage.
- To acquire and hold in perpetuity land of natural beauty or buildings and objects of historic or cultural interest for the benefit of people today and of future generations.
- To give the people of St Helena a stake in the future of their unique environmental and cultural heritage.
- To provide opportunities for enjoyment, education, recreation and spiritual refreshment. The principal objectives of the Trust are:
- To promote the permanent preservation for the benefit of St. Helena of lands and buildings of beauty or public, architectural, artistic, or historical interest and, in the case of lands, the preservation (so far as possible) of their natural aspect features and animal, plant and marine life.
- To promote the protection and augmentation of the amenities of such buildings and places and their surroundings.
- To maintain and manage lands acquired by the Trust as open spaces or places of public resort and buildings so acquired for purposes of public recreation, resort or instruction.
- To promote the preservation of furniture, pictures, documents, and chattels of any description having national or historic or artistic interest.
- To tender advice to the St. Helena Government on any matter contained in these objectives.
- To promote the access to and the enjoyment of such lands, buildings, places and chattels by the public.

### Financial Results

The financial results for the period are set out in the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings on page 9, and are summarised below: -

	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
Surplus for the Financial Year	136,218	3,206

### Trust Council & Directors

The following director held office during the financial year end:  
Helena Bennett

The following Trust Council Members held office during the financial year:  
Neil Fantom  
Vince Thompson  
Adam Sizeland

**St Helena National Trust**  
**Directors' Report**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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Michel Dancoisne- Martineau  
Lourens Malan  
Cllr Andrew Turner  
Christy Joshua  
Kimberley Peters  
Tracey Williams

**Statement of Directors' Responsibilities**

Management are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standards 102 and to present the statements in such a way as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation for that year. Any significant assumptions used by the organisation in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, should be reasonable.

Any related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of the Section 1A of Financial Reporting Standards 102. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and which require adjustments or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate to the financial statements as a whole. All accounting policies and changes to the accounting policies used in the preparation of the final statements are described in the accounting policies note to the accounts.

**Statement as to disclosure of information to the auditor**

There is no relevant information of which the auditor is unaware and the director and Trust Council have taken all steps they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Auditor for the current financial year in accordance with the organisation's governing legislation, St Helena National Trust Ordinance, 2001 section 15.4 and the St Helena National Trust (Amended) Regulations, 2020 will be the Vincent Slayer LLP on behalf of the Chief Auditor of St Helena, as appointed at the Annual General Meeting held on the 29 January 2024.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on the 17 September 2024 by the President of the Trust Council.



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**Neil Fantom**  
**SHNT Council President**



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**Christy Joshua**  
**SHNT Council Member**

**St Helena National Trust**  
**Independent Auditor's Report**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Saint Helena National Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial position, statement of income and retained earnings and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Saint Helena Constitutional and Administrative Law Interpretation Ordinance 1968

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on Saint Helena National Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other Information**

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with

## St Helena National Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report For the year ended 31 March 2024

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the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under applicable law.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.



**Independent Auditor's Report  
For the year ended 31 March 2024**

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**Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We enquired of management, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:
  - Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
  - The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## St Helena National Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report For the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with Saint Helena Constitutional and Administrative Law Interpretation Ordinance 1968 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Sayer Vincent LLP*

20 September 2024

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor

110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

**St Helena National Trust**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As at 31 March 2024**

		<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	<b>3</b>	183,395	146,253
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>183,395</b>	<b>146,253</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stocks		5,698	-
Debtors	<b>4</b>	54,785	10,511
Prepayments		2,294	2,049
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>5</b>	228,192	239,470
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>290,969</b>	<b>252,030</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors	<b>6</b>	6,110	11,672
Accruals		11,639	17,399
Provisions for Liabilities	<b>7</b>	3,241	5,704
Income Received in Advance		-	27,833
Deferred Grant – Current	<b>8</b>	24,879	13,797
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>45,869</b>	<b>76,405</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>245,100</b>	<b>175,625</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Deferred Grant – Long-term	<b>8</b>	89,716	63,906
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>89,716</b>	<b>63,906</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>338,779</b>	<b>257,972</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
Funds	<b>15</b>	176,700	108,955
Retained Surplus		162,079	149,017
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>		<b>338,779</b>	<b>257,972</b>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A – small entities.

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

# St Helena National Trust

## Statement of Income and Retained Earnings for the year ended 31 March 2024

	NOTES	2023/2024 £	2022/2023 £
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	9	(480,581)	(542,105)
OPERATING INCOME	10	616,539	545,096
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>		<u>135,958</u>	<u>2,991</u>
Finance income		260	215
<b>SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAXATION</b>		<u>136,218</u>	<u>3,206</u>
Taxation on profit on ordinary activities		-	-
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<u>136,218</u>	<u>3,206</u>
Net surplus on Funds for the year		123,156	14,458
Net surplus on Funds	15	115,279	9,368
Transfer to Funds from Retained Earnings	15	7,877	5,090
Net surplus (deficit) for the year		13,062	(11,252)
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>		<u>136,218</u>	<u>3,206</u>
<b>FUNDS BALANCE AT 1 APRIL</b>		<b>108,955</b>	<b>138,151</b>
Capital asset purchased during the year		(55,411)	(43,654)
Net surplus on funds for the year		123,156	14,458
<b>FUND BALANCE AT 31 MARCH</b>	15	<u>176,700</u>	<u>108,955</u>
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS AT 1 APRIL</b>		<b>149,017</b>	<b>160,269</b>
Net surplus (deficit) for the year		13,062	(11,252)
<b>RETAINED SURPLUS AT 31 MARCH</b>		<u>162,079</u>	<u>149,017</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

## St Helena National Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### NOTE 1

##### GENERAL INFORMATION

St Helena National Trust is a community-based charity established under the St Helena National Trust Ordinance 2001 as amended in 2019. The address of the registered office is Broadway House, Main Street, Jamestown, St Helena Island.

#### NOTE 2

##### ACCOUNTING POLICIES

###### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1A small entities and are the financial statements of the parent entity, not group consolidated statements.

The financial statements are presented in St Helena Pound (£) which equate to GBP and are rounded to the nearest £1.

###### Going Concern accounting policy

After reviewing the entity's forecast and projections, those charged with governance have a reasonable expectation that the organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The organisation therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

###### Significant Judgements and estimates

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make significant judgements and estimates. The items in the financial statements where these judgements and estimates have been made include useful lives of long-lived assets. There is no certainty that realisable values in the future will match management's current estimates.

###### Financial reporting standard 102 (FRS 102) – reduced disclosure exemptions

The organisation has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemptions in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by Section 1A of FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" for qualifying entities:

- Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows –option taken to not prepare a statement of cash flows

###### Property, plant and equipment

Tangible fixed assets including those acquired under development aid are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, over their expected useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Buildings	20 years
Motor Vehicles	5 years
Plant and Equipment	5 years
Computer Equipment	3 years

Fixed Assets costing less than £1,000 are charged directly to the Statement of Income.

## St Helena National Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

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#### **Impairment of assets**

At each reporting date fixed assets are reviewed to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. If the estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount, and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Statement of Income.

If an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but not in excess of the amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the statement of income.

#### **Debtors**

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

#### **Creditors**

Short term trade creditors are measured at the transaction price.

#### **Provisions for liabilities**

Provisions are recognised when the group has a present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the organisation will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

The organisation recognises a provision for annual leave accrued by employees as a result of services rendered in the current period, and which employees are entitled to carry forward and use within the next 12 months. The provision is measured at the salary cost payable for the period of absence.

#### **Deferred Capital Grants**

Deferred Capital Grants are initially recognised as deferred income at cost if there is reasonable assurance that they will be received and the organisation will comply with the conditions associated with the grant; they are then recognised in profit or loss as other income on a systematic basis over the useful life of the asset.

#### **Grants**

Grants are accounted for on a receivable basis when there is probable and measurable entitlement to the income (i.e. the conditions for its award have been satisfied).

External assistance was received in the form of grants from donor agencies under agreements specifying the purpose for which assistance will be utilised. Grant funding received and receivable during the reporting period is disclosed in Note 13.

Government grants for items that are written off in the year of purchase are credited to revenue in the same year.

## St Helena National Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### Funds

Funds are established to monitor funding accrued for specific purposes and the expenditure incurred for those funds. The increase or decrease in unrestricted receipts for the year is transferred to retained earnings.

Grant funding toward administrative costs are recorded as a receipt in the fund for which the grant was provided to reflect the total grant receipts for the project. The contributions toward administrative costs are recorded as a transfer from the relevant fund to the SHNT General Account. Charges resulting from services rendered between funds are recorded as transfer between funds.

#### Taxation

St Helena National Trust is exempt from the provisions of the Income Tax Ordinance.

#### Foreign currencies

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions during the year are valued at the rate prevailing on the day of the transaction. All exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Income.

The functional currency is the St Helena Pound (£) which is the same as the presentation currency for these financial statements.

#### NOTE 3

##### PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Land & Buildings	Motor Vehicles	Plant & Equipment	Computer Equipment	Totals
<b>COST</b>					
At 1 April 2023	92,120	116,506	12,454	4,816	225,896
Disposals	-	(1,333)	-	-	(1,333)
Additions	1,674	45,563	9,846	-	57,083
At 31 March 2024	<b>93,794</b>	<b>160,736</b>	<b>22,300</b>	<b>4,816</b>	<b>281,646</b>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
At 1 April 2023	-	69,667	6,231	3,746	79,644
Disposals	-	(1,333)	-	-	(1,333)
Charge for the year	-	16,288	2,583	1,069	19,940
At 31 March 2024	-	<b>84,622</b>	<b>8,814</b>	<b>4,815</b>	<b>98,251</b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>					
At 31 March 2024	<b>93,794</b>	<b>76,114</b>	<b>13,486</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>183,395</b>
At 31 March 2023	<b>92,120</b>	<b>46,839</b>	<b>6,223</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>146,253</b>

# St Helena National Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

### **NOTE 4** **DEBTORS**

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade Debtors	54,785	10,511
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,785</b>	<b>10,511</b>

### **NOTE 5** **CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Operating bank accounts	133,427	110,428
SHNT Projects bank account	94,765	129,042
<b>Total</b>	<b>228,192</b>	<b>239,470</b>

### **NOTE 6** **CREDITORS**

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade Creditors	6,110	11,672
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,110</b>	<b>11,672</b>

### **NOTE 7** **PROVISION FOR LIABILITIES**

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>1 April</b>	5,704	3,352
Provision for Staff Leave Pay – Increase	-	2,352
Provision for Staff Leave Pay – Reduce	(2,463)	-
<b>31 March</b>	<b>3,241</b>	<b>5,704</b>

The leave pay provision represents holiday balances accrued as a result of services rendered and which employees are entitled to carry forward. The provision is measured as the salary cost payable for the period of absence.



# St Helena National Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

### **NOTE 8**

#### **DEFERRED CAPITAL GRANTS**

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>1 April</b>	77,703	44,936
Capital Grants Received for the year	55,410	43,654
Amortisation	(18,518)	(10,887)
<b>31 March</b>	<b>114,595</b>	<b>77,703</b>
Non-current	89,716	63,906
Current	24,879	13,797
<b>Total</b>	<b>114,595</b>	<b>77,703</b>

The Trust was awarded £1,000 Asset Capacity Building Grant in support of works on Stone Cottage, Deadwood as well as a number of tangible/movable assets to the value of £30,333. These have been recognised as deferred income and amortised over the useful life of the assets.

During the year, a vehicle plus land clearing equipment was purchased using grant funding.

### **NOTE 9**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES**

	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Audit expenses	12,500	12,000
Depreciation	19,940	24,481
Property Cost	3,956	4,123
Professional fees	2,109	31,890
Employee costs	299,966	302,263
Travel & Subsistence	16,023	39,985
Increase in provision for Leave Pay	-	2,352
Supplies & Consumables	126,087	125,011
	<b>480,581</b>	<b>542,105</b>

### **NOTE 10**

#### **OPERATING INCOME**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>/2024</b>	<b>/2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<i>External Grants</i>		
DEFRA	200,840	215,092
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	25,000	25,000

## St Helena National Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Blue Marine	47,800	91,170
British Library	5,625	14,061
Historic England	2,300	-
Darwin Plus	45,695	-
Darwin Plus Local	56,259	-
Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office	93,887	55,470
Headley Trust	5,000	-
John Ellerman Foundation	27,833	37,333
Ocean Conservancy	1,603	-
<i>St Helena Government</i>		
Support Grant	43,000	43,000
Landscape & Ecology Mitigation Programme	2,600	41,660
ENRP	4,335	3,293
Tourism	15,679	-
Donations Received	488	1,876
Membership Fees Received	386	168
Sale of Souvenirs	297	80
Reduction in leave accrual	2,464	-
Deferred Capital Grant Amortised	18,518	10,887
Other Income	16,930	6,006
	<b>616,539</b>	<b>545,096</b>

#### **NOTE 11**

##### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

##### Key Management Personnel Compensation

The key management personnel of the St Helena National Trust (as defined under FRS 102) are the Senior Management Team consisting of the Director, Finance Manager, Office Manager, Head of Conservation, Education & Outreach Manager and Marine Conservation Manager. The aggregate remuneration paid to these key management personnel totalled £101,943 (2023: £97,759).

#### **NOTE 12**

##### **AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES**

The average number of employees was 25 (2023: 26) during the course of the year.

#### **NOTE 13**

##### **CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

There were no capital commitments for the period.

# St Helena National Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

### NOTE 14

#### SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no subsequent events to report.

### NOTE 15

#### FUNDS

	1 April 2023 Balance	Net funds received for the year	Income - Grant	Income - Other	Net funds spent for the year	Net retained funds 23/24	Transfers between funds	Capital items purchased	31 March 2024 Balance
HER	3,909	2,300	2,300	-	13	2,287	-	-	6,196
JNCC	1,999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,999
MBZ	991	-	-	-	-	-	-991	-	-
DPLUS107	-23,673	29,956	29,956	-	9,895	20,061	3,612	-	-
DPLUS104	-28,509	29,297	29,297	-	115	29,182	-673	-	-
LARF	1,875	2,675	2,160	515	2,967	-292	-	-	1,583
M FOREST	-	5,222	1,695	3,527	11,688	-6,466	6,466	-	-
EAP	7,126	5,625	5,625	-	15,384	-9,759	2,633	-	-
CLOUD FOREST	4,923	92,449	92,449	-	94,769	-2,320	-	-	2,603
LEMP	3,623	2,600	2,600	-	3,113	-513	-3,110	-	-
BLUE MARINE	109,207	45,250	45,000	250	42,678	2,572	-25,995	-	85,784
MPP (ZSL)	938	46,768	45,695	1,073	43,222	3,546	-	-	4,484
JEF	25,996	27,833	27,833	-	29,085	-1,252	-	-1,951	22,793
EDU	550	581	-	581	555	26	4,041	-	4,617
DPLUS190	-	141,587	141,587	-	82,430	59,157	-	-53,459	5,698
DPL00036	-	33,407	33,407	-	33,572	-165	-	-	-165
DPL00033	-	22,852	22,852	-	15,636	7,216	-	-	7,216
ENRP	-	2,640	2,640	-	1,652	988	-988	-	-
ICW(RSPB)	-	1,438	1,438	-	2,478	-1,040	1,040	-	-
DIVE	-	2,800	2,800	-	2,053	747	-	-	747
HIG	-	13,519	13,519	-	5,250	8,269	-	-	8,269
HED	-	7,078	5,000	2,078	4,156	2,922	-	-	2,922
GEN CONS/HER	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,954	-	21,954
ICC	-	1,603	1,603	-	1,489	114	-114	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>108,955</b>	<b>517,480</b>	<b>509,456</b>	<b>8,024</b>	<b>402,200</b>	<b>115,280</b>	<b>7,875</b>	<b>-55,410</b>	<b>176,700</b>
	1 April 2022 Balance	Net funds received for the year	Income - Grant	Income - Other	Net funds spent for the year	Net retained funds 22/23	Transfers between funds	Capital items purchased	31 March 2023 Balance
HER	1,959	2,000	-	2,000	50	1,950	-	-	3,909
JNCC	1,999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,999

# St Helena National Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

<b>MBZ</b>	<b>5,191</b>	-	-	-	4,200	-4,200	-	-	<b>991</b>
<b>DPLUS 107</b>	<b>-7,288</b>	75,701	75,701	-	92,086	-16,385	-	-	<b>-23,673</b>
<b>DPLUS 104</b>	<b>-5,756</b>	101,477	101,477	-	124,230	-22,753	-	-	<b>-28,509</b>
<b>LARF</b>	<b>4,889</b>	-	-	-	3,014	-3,014	-	-	<b>1,875</b>
<b>M FOREST</b>	-	1,022	-	1,022	10,490	-9,468	9,468	-	-
<b>EAP</b>	<b>15,006</b>	14,061	14,061	-	21,941	-7,880	-	-	<b>7,126</b>
<b>CLOUD FOREST</b>	<b>59,318</b>	55,470	55,470	-	66,211	-10,741	-	-43,654	<b>4,923</b>
<b>JEL</b>	<b>4,063</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-4,063	-	-
<b>LEMP</b>	<b>1,083</b>	41,600	41,600	-	39,060	2,540	-	-	<b>3,623</b>
<b>BLUE MARINE</b>	<b>57,687</b>	92,437	91,170	1,267	40,917	51,520	-	-	<b>109,207</b>
<b>MPP (ZSL)</b>	-	37,914	37,914	-	36,976	938	-	-	<b>938</b>
<b>JEF</b>	-	37,333	37,333	-	11,337	25,996	-	-	<b>25,996</b>
<b>ANRD</b>	-	3,293	3,293	-	2,978	315	-315	-	-
<b>EDU</b>	-	550	-	550	-	550	-	-	<b>550</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>138,151</b>	<b>462,858</b>	<b>458,019</b>	<b>4,839</b>	<b>453,490</b>	<b>9,368</b>	<b>5,090</b>	<b>-43,654</b>	<b>108,955</b>

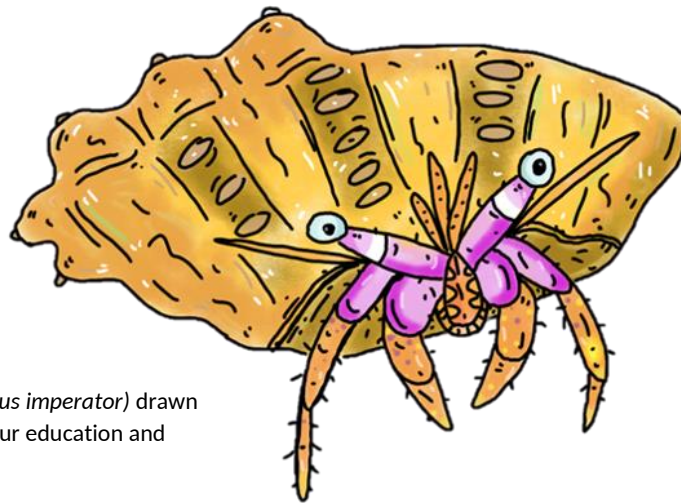
ST HELENA



NATIONAL TRUST

# ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024



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

© SHNT

**Vision:** *St Helena's Heritage for all, forever*

**Mission:** *To champion St Helena's heritage through collaboration, engagement, proactive management and partnerships*



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Founded in 2001, the job of the St Helena National Trust is to help conserve St Helena's history, culture, and natural environment – some of the fundamental characteristics of the island that makes living here such a rewarding and fulfilling experience.

Each year, the breath, scope and impact of the Trust's work seems to be greater than the year before. This year is no exception, and in this report you will read that we are researching the endemic and endangered insect species in St Helena's cloud forest; that we are improving St Helena's grasslands, for the benefit of both the people that use it and the wildlife species that lives there – including our most famous species of all, the wire bird; that we are controlling the predators that threaten some of our endangered wildlife; that we studied the biology of St Helena's magnificent bone sharks, and that we are now monitoring St Helena's seabirds; that we are trying to turn the tide on the marine plastics, most of which washes up on our shores from lands far away; that we are maintaining a register of St Helena's historic built heritage; that we have started a program of work to conserve High Knoll Fort; that we have completed the digitisation of the East India Company records dated between 1673 and 1834; that we are working to remember, recognise and honour the victims of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, including through a new Interpretation Centre; that we are supporting the conservation of St Helena with advocacy and advice; and that we actively help educate both children and adults through our outreach and engagement.

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

- Neil Fantom -

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# 1. OUR IMPACT 2023-2024



2 high profile visitors



5 new species of spider to science



39% increase in wire bird nests



Grade 3 rating on predator control



High Knoll Fort profile resurrected



110,742 images produced for archival records



286.3kg of rubbish was collected



73% increase in community engagement



1 new education resource pack produced



UK OT and Dependencies Plastic Pollution network created



St Helena designated as a Hope Spot



For every £1 provided by SHG, we returned it 12-fold to the island



Trust AGM 2022/23, Liza Fowler presenting Cloud Forest Project

© SHNT

## 2. ABOUT US

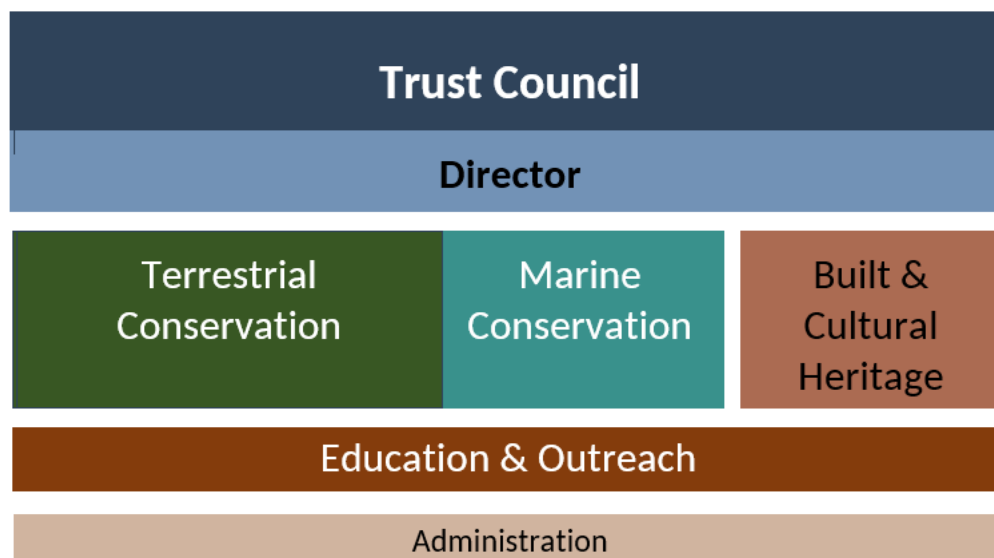
**Legally Mandated:** The Trust is a statutory body, with its governance structure and objectives laid out in the St Helena National Trust Ordinance, 2001. We are established:

- To promote the permanent preservation of lands and buildings for the benefit of St Helena and her people. We focus on sites that have public, architectural, artistic or historic interest, and we try to preserve the natural aspect of sites with their animals, plants and marine life.
- To maintain and manage lands and buildings under the stewardship of the Trust as places of public recreation, resort or instruction.
- To promote the preservation of furniture, pictures, documents, and chattels of any description having national or historic or artistic interest.
- To tender advice to the St Helena Government on any matter contained in this mandate.
- To promote the access to and the enjoyment of lands, buildings, places and chattels by the public.

The Trust was registered as a charity (C00010) under the St Helena Charities Ordinance 2005.

### Structure

The Trust Council and Director overseeing the strategic direction of the Trust, the Director and Senior Management responsible for the operation management and the Project Managers and staff responsible for the projects and day to day activities.



### 3. OUR 5 YEAR STRATEGY

The Trust established a 5-year strategy in 2021. The [2021-2026 Strategy](#) prioritises our legal mandate into an achievable work programme.

Strategic Aim 1:	To deliver conservation of St Helena's built, cultural and natural heritage
Strategic Aim 2:	To influence decisions within society to benefit St Helena's heritage
Strategy Aim 3:	To share knowledge of, promotion a sense of pride in, and inspire local and international communities with our programme

Please see Section 4 Our Performance 2023-2024 detailing our work carried out to achieve our strategy.

#### Our Future Aspirations

- ✿ We aim to be the leading conservation body on **St Helena birds** and develop a bird management plan
- ✿ We will restore the No.1 Building and open as an **Interpretation Centre** for the Liberated African Establishment and St Helena's enslavement legacy
- ✿ We will continue to develop **educational packs** for schools, and widen the audience of our education and outreach work
- ✿ We will develop a **Millennium Forest management plan** to include activities for sustainable financing of the forest
- ✿ We will update the **Wirebird Species Action Plan** for St Helena
- ✿ We will develop a **Predator control management plan** project proposal, in collaboration with St Helena Government
- ✿ We will develop a **Fundraising Strategy** to diversify our funding opportunities and increase our unrestricted sources of income
- ✿ We will develop a **Reserves Policy** for the Trust, which will enable the Trust to better maintain our buildings, capital expenses and support our staff
- ✿ We will adopt ZSL's **FAIRER Conservation** model (Fair, Accountable, Inclusive, Respectful, Ethical and Reflective conservation)

## 4. Our Performance 2023-2024

### CONSERVATION

We actively manage threats to our natural, and built and cultural heritage. Our work programmes seek to address gaps that is beneficial to our island.

#### PLANTS

##### Millennium Forest

Management of St Helena's first large scale conservation effort of dryland habitat previously known as the Great Wood with the support of the community.

Duration	Ongoing, since 2002
Project Team	Martina Peters, Christopher Clingham, David Francis, David Peters
Funding Organisations	John Ellerman Foundation, The Trust
Project Partners	RSPB, SHG, John Ellerman Foundation

##### Project Objectives

To continue long-term ecological restoration of the Millennium Forest, under the landownership of the Trust, whilst generating self-sustaining funding, such as a garden centre to increase income to the project. The Millennium Forest is our primary location for education and outreach which encourages community participation and provide opportunities for wellbeing and connection with nature.

##### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

In April 2023, the Trust wrapped up the Landscape & Ecology Mitigation Programme (LEMP) project that was financially supported by SHG.

The first debut or 'soft opening' of the garden centre was made on World Sustainability Day (26<sup>th</sup> October 2023) with a sustainability fair hosted by the Chevening Alumni. With the fair being located at the Millennium Forest, the Nursery and Garden Centre was able to display and sell both plants and garden décor made from reusable materials. On 25 January 2024, His Royal Highness, Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh visited the Millennium Forest and planned a gumwood tree.

The Millennium Forest collectively made £1,289 on sale of plants, tree planting and tours. Trial activities continues for raising funds to sustain the Forest.

The Millennium Forest continues with its inclusion programme, hosting students with disabilities as well as probationary services. The probationary services published a paper in the Probation Journal, see link [The world's most remote community service? Partnership working and building community capacity on the British Overseas Territory Island of St Helena - Fiona Campbell, Laura Aston, 2024 \(sagepub.com\)](#)

## INVERTEBRATES

### Cloud Forest

Restoring St Helena's internationally important cloud forest for wildlife, water security and people

Duration	2021 to 2025
Project Team	Martina Peters, Natasha Stevens, Liza Fowler, Daryl Joshua, Christy Jo Scipio O'Dean, Sheena Benjamin, Angela Francis, Helena Bennett
Funding Organisations	FCDO
Project Partners	RSPB, SHG, Connect St Helena, Arctium, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Bottom Woods Met Station, Royal Botanical Gardens Kew, British Geological Society

### Project Objectives

To build the foundation for scaling up cloud forest restoration on St Helena through the implementation of the Peak National Park Management Plan to provide long-term demonstrable benefits to biodiversity, water security and the community. Monitor population and genetic material for priority indicator invertebrate species and improve understanding of the value of the cloud forest for the community.

### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

The annual invertebrate survey was completed and report drafted, along with the study of endemic moths within the cloud forest. Moths are great pollinators and pollinate endemic plants.

A completed overview of spider taxonomy on St Helena was carried out, with a focus on Diana's Peaks species. This led to the description of 5 species new to science of which 3 were found within the Cloud Forest. The new species are:

- *Hogna veseyensis* Mt Vesey Waterfall Wolf Spider (within cloud forest)
- *Molearachne sanctaehelenae* Mole Spider
- *Dolocosa joshuai* Daryl Wolf Spider
- *Ero lizae* Pirate Spider (within cloud forest)
- *Ero natashae* Pirate Spider (within cloud forest)

<https://community.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/b/science/posts/new-spider-species-discovered-on-saint-helena-the-jewel-of-the-south-atlantic-ocean>

<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/news/2024/february/new-species-pirate-spiders-discovered-south-atlantic-island.html>

Invasive invertebrate control plan for the Cloud Forest was revised as a result of the Peaks being closed due to pathogens killing endemic trees. The invasive invertebrate control plan during this period focused on the fringes of the Peaks, with the key species being common wasps and big-headed ants. The common wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*) gut content was successfully investigated by Fera, who had detected 9 endemic species (possibly 11) in the gut. These samples gave interesting insight in the feeding habits of these invasive arthropods and provides evidence of the potential impact the wasp may have on local ecosystems.



The diet of the wasp varied, with spiders, millipedes, and ten orders of insects. The 9 endemic species detected were:

- *Tecution planum* Prowling spider
- *Bucliona dubia* Sac spider
- *Hogna ligata* Peaks large wolf spider
- *Paraheliophanus sanctaehelenae* Jumping spider
- *Leucauge Digna* Worthy long-jawed spider
- *Argyrodes mellissi* Golden sail spider
- *Theridion solium* Comb footed spider
- *Chrysoperla exul* Exiled green lacewing
- *Phaneracra bartletti* Bartlett's bush cricket

The IUCN Red list is a critical indicator of the health of the world's biodiversity. During the year, the team also updated the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species with insects.

<https://www.iucnredlist.org/search?query=St%20Helena&searchType=species>

Training was provided by Danni Sherwood on 'How to curate a wet collection' and 'How to write a short paper'. The Education and Outreach Manager also held a 'barrier to conservation' workshop with Secondary Education students, to gauge their interest in choosing careers in conservation.

Publications for the year:

- **Sherwood, D., de Armas, L., Sharp, A., Fowler, L., & Wilkins, V.** 2024 Scorpions (Arachnida Scorpions) of the United Kingdom Overseas Territories: current knowledge and future directions: Biodiversity Journal, 2024,15 (1): 41–52



Common wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*)

© SHNT

## VERTEBRATES

### Grasslands

Improving St Helena's grassland to benefit people and wildlife.

Reference	DPLUS190
Duration	3 years, March 2026
Project Team	Martina Peters, James Fantom, Denis Leo, Nico Benjamin, Gavin Ellick
Funding Organisations	Darwin Plus Initiative, SHG
Project Partners	SHG, RSPB, Chamber of Commerce/Farmers Representation

### Project Objectives

To improve and develop effective pasture management techniques for longer-term sustainability that will provide suitable habitat for the St Helena Plover (wirebird) and benefit the communities' livelihoods, and the local market, through the increase in number of grazing animals and quality of meat produced.

### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

Three high-priority pastureland sites were agreed by the Project Board - Bottom Woods, Deadwood, and Man and Horse, covering a total of 6 hectares. The project developed a management plan with three pasture management techniques of 1) ploughing, 2) herbicide treatments with weed wiper and mower, and 3) rotational grazing. These interventions were initiated at all of the high priority sites.

Rabbit populations are being monitored in this project. Night surveys were carried out on the three high priority sites. A bi-annual data collection was set up with deadwood rabbit shooters, to monitor effects of rabbit shooting on that site.

Vegetation and invertebrate surveys were carried out to determine a baseline for species presence at the three high-priority sites. This will provide evidence for the effectiveness' of management interventions. The invertebrate survey is to provide evidence to determine the impact of these interventions on invertebrate species in this habitat.

The three species specifically targeted by this project of Bullgrass (*Juncus capillaceus*), Gorse/Furze (*Ulex Europus*), and Lantana/Wild currant (*Lantana camara*).

Importantly, A good working relationship has been established by the project team with local actors, including farmers, government bodies, schoolchildren, and SHG Tourism. A livelihood questionnaire was welcomed by farmers, which the Trust is currently analysing.

The Wirebird Team delivered 12 Wirebird tours to a total of 158 people, including the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Edward. Out of these, 76 were tourists and 82 were locals (mostly schoolchildren) This far exceeds the project goal of 30 people over the course of the project, by about 500% achieved in the first 2 quarters in the first year of the project.

The Wirebird team works closely with SHG to feed into and inform the NCA management plans currently being written under DPLUS 154.

Wirebird management continues to be a success. In November, our RSPB project partners arrived on island, who trained staff in bird flagging, and data collection and management. The Trust flagged 59 wirebirds which will allow us to monitor for re-sightings and movement around the island, along with the regular nest monitoring. In January 2024, we carried out our annual wirebird census. Whilst we had concerns with the number of birds being killed on the Haul Road (20+) and had an overall decrease in total birds (Adults, chicks, juveniles) of 3% (675n – 2024, 691n – 2023), the number of adult birds has increased as well as a 39% increase in nests. This year saw the highest number of adult wirebirds since census counts began.



Flagging the St Helena Plover aka Wire bird (*Charadrius sanctaehelenae*)

© SHNT



## Predator Control

Island wide predator control to prevent loss of bird biodiversity

Duration	May 2023 to March 2024
Project Team	Mario Green, Eric Crowie, Kenickie Andrews, Louis Youde, Neil Thorp
Funding Organisations	Darwin Plus Local
Project Partners	SHG

### Project Objectives

To trial an initial year of island wide predator control for seabirds and wirebirds to feed into management plans being developed by SHG to conserve national biodiversity in Natural Conservation Areas, and to build capacity of local Trust staff in skills required to undertake predator control.

### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

The project focused on conservation areas around the habitats of masked booby, red-billed tropic bird and wirebird.

The Trust deployed 157 individual cat traps across 13 key areas over 78 nights. Rabbit traps were installed over a period of 51 days in the Millennium Forest. In addition to trapping, the Trust monitored and logged data on sightings of invasive species such as cats, mice, rats, rabbits and myna birds using camera traps, visual sightings, tracking and trapping.

Through the project's outreach programme and in partnership with the Livestock Section, the Trust was able to reduce the negative impact of feral and free roaming pet cats with the community.

In concluding the project with Darwin Plus local, the independent reviewer graded the project a 3.

**3 being the project outcome met expectations.**

## MARINE

### Marine Scientific Research

Duration	April 2022 to June 2025
Project Team	Kenickie Andrews, Matthew Owen, Neil Thorp, <i>Louis Youde</i> , <i>Adam Riggs</i>
Funding Organisations	Blue Marine Foundation (John Ellerman Foundation)
Project Partners	SHG

#### Project Objectives

To continue the research of the 'Cooperative biology and conservation research on Bone (whale) sharks in St Helena's waters' study - with additional novel Baited Remote Underwater Video Systems (BRUVS) research linked to the SHG-Blue Belt BRUVS program. This project also focused on building the capacity in bone shark research and has a three-year research licence

#### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

The project continued research started in 2019, recognising the importance of (a) increasing survey efforts, and; (b) maintaining long-term monitoring programs, for the development of robust management measures.

During the 18-day research period, the Trust documented 14 individual sharks from 22 sightings. These encounters are currently being meticulously identified through Shark Book, the global shark web portal, to accurately distinguish new sharks to the island from re-sightings.

This season has marked the lowest number of shark encounters since the Trust assumed its role as the leading researcher on this species in 2019. Currently, the Trust is consolidating all bone shark data collected from 2019 to 2023 to pinpoint trends, patterns, and insights that can shed light on the reasons behind these declining numbers.

In February 2024, the Trust also collaborated once again with film producer Danny Copeland, through the Blue Marine Foundation. The Marine team filmed and interviewed a "Trust Marine success story" and created a virtual reality film that showcases "a day on the water with the Trust team" using headsets for the Trust's ongoing education and outreach efforts.

Also, in February, the Trust hosted Dr Dayne Buddo and Ms Kim Stone of Georgia Aquarium for a familiarisation visit. The purpose of this visit was to enhance relationships between Georgia Aquarium and the Trust, promoting the island as a designated Hope Spot and continuing discussions on potential projects. While on Island both Dayne and Kim enjoyed both marine related on land and in water excursions.

## Seabird Monitoring

Duration	April 2023 to June 2024
Project Team	Kenickie Andrews, Louis Youde, Mario Green, Eric Crowie, Matthew Owen, Gavin Ellick, Denis Leo, Nico Benjamin, Radka Henry, Martina Peters, <i>Tobias Capel</i>
Funding Organisations	Darwin Plus Local
Project Partners	RSPB, SHG, Annalea Beard

### Project Objectives

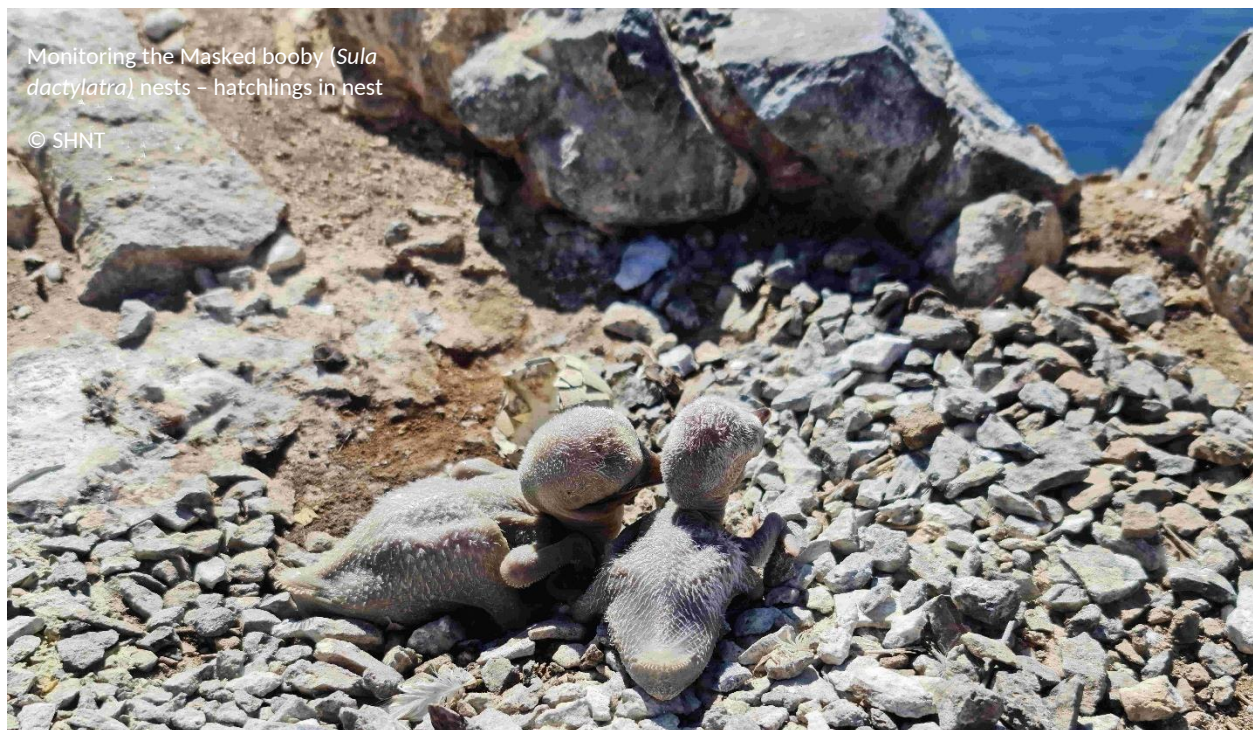
To obtain biodiversity data on priority seabird species such as Masked Booby, Madeiran Storm Petrel, and Red-billed Tropicbirds. This supports the development of the National Conservation Areas Management Plans, whilst researching the gaps. The project also focused on building the Trust's capacity in seabird research.

### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

The project started the analysis of the historic data collected by SHG between 2004-2011 to obtain a baseline data on seabird populations and breeding seasons.

In November 2023, RSPB provided capacity support and training to the Trust, targeting specifically the 'hot' season population census of the Madeiran Storm Petrels on Egg Island. Janet Fairclough spent a month on island, through the RSPB sabbatical scheme working with the staff on seabirds.

The Trust also carried out alternating weekly monitoring of the Masked Booby at the Sandy Bay ridge and Red-billed Tropicbirds on the clifftops of Ladder Hill.



## Marine Plastics

Turning the tide on plastic pollution in St Helena and Ascension

Duration	April 2022 to March 2025
Project Team	Matthew Owen, Neil Thorp Maria Fernandes Freitas
Funding Organisations	Darwin Plus Initiative, Ocean Conservancy, International Coastal Cleanup
Project Partners	Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Ascension Island Government (AIG), SHG, Blue Marine Foundation, Exeter, Cape Town and Nelson Mandela Universities, St Helena Equality and Human Rights Commission

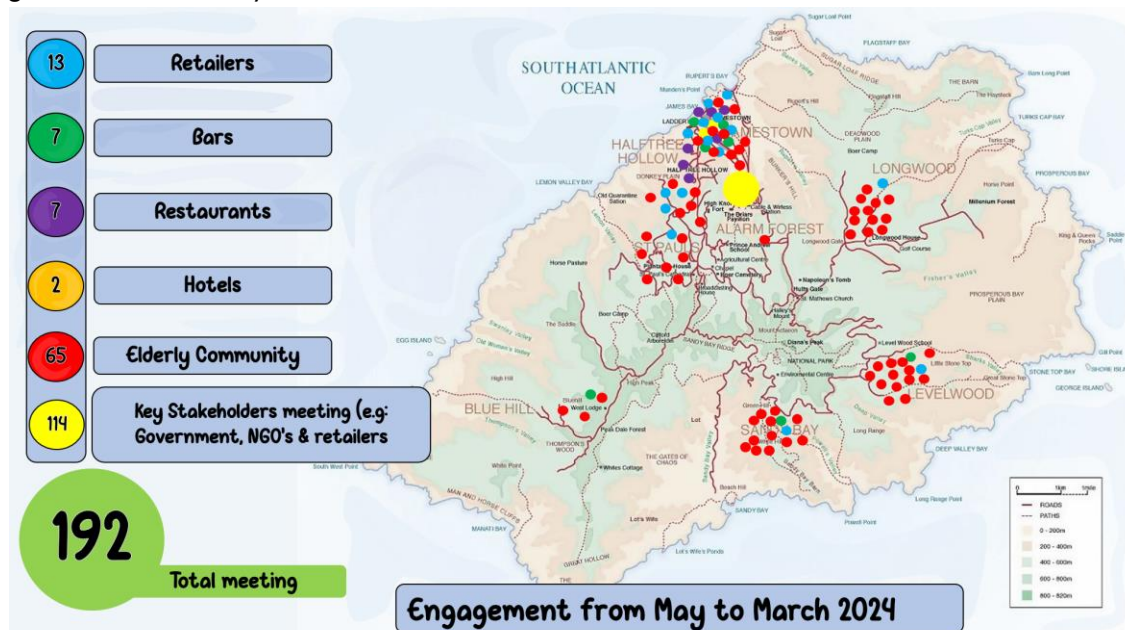
### Project Objectives

This project will trial and implement interventions to tackle systematic drivers of plastic pollution both here and Ascension, contributing to environmental conservation, particularly benefitting the ocean and wildlife species.

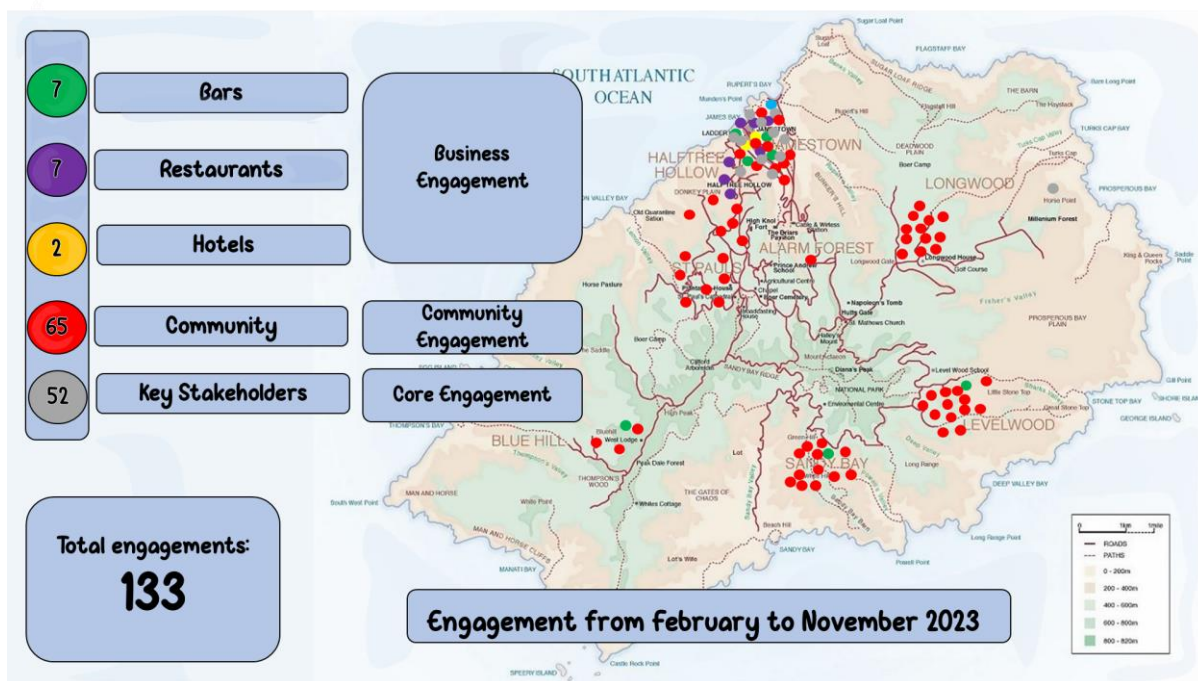
### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

With the project being dependent on the community to engage, a grievance process was set up for the project to allow the community to raise their issues and concerns within a safe space regarding the project.

A total of 133 engagement activities were performed between March to November 2023 to map the single-use plastic system on St Helena. Interview and survey-based questionnaire methods were employed to capture behaviours and attitudes towards single-use plastic as well as understand the importation and waste disposal of single-use plastic items. Training was provided remotely by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) to partners on St Helena and Ascension to code their community engagements thematically.







In April 2023, all island primary and secondary schools participated in an island wide clean up organised by SHNT. A total of 286.3kg of trash was collected over the week-long event. In October 2023, Matthew Owen, SHNT Marine Project Assistant, spent time with the New Horizons Youth Group. The workshop was based around spreading awareness about single-use plastics and encouraging sustainable habits; providing them with valuable knowledge and tools to tackle the issue of plastic waste in their community. For World Oceans Day 2023, the Plastics Project team produced a comic book to raise awareness on single use plastics, their harm to wildlife and to encourage sustainable habits. The comic was distributed to all schools on St Helena, the public library and can be downloaded from the Trust website. The comic was also sent to Ascension Island and Tristan Da Cunha schools.

The SHNT Marine Plastics Team hosted and participated in two UK Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies plastic pollution network meetings in the last year (April and October 2023), with 32 and 33 attendees respectively from a total of 10 territories/dependencies, including Ascension Island, Bermuda, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falklands, Isle of Man, Pitcairn, St Helena and Turks & Caicos. In addition, there were UK-based representatives from CEFAS, DEFRA, MMO, Universities and NGOs. These meetings are designed to be a space where people working to tackle the diverse issues associated with single-use plastics and marine ocean debris can share lessons learned, best practice and combine their voices in advocacy.

## BUILT HERITAGE

### St Helena Environment Register

Duration	March 2021 to March 2025
Project Team	Shelley Magellan-Wade <i>Shayla Ellick</i>
Funding Organisations	Historic England
Project Partners	Historic England, SHG, St Helena Museum

#### Project Objectives

To migrate and update the HER from its current format into a GIS database, that is open source, free and accessible. To advocate the HER as a tool for planning, development, tourism and conservation.

#### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

To finalise the project, the Trust and Historic England worked through the next steps required to upload the database for open access. The Trust is currently working on island to determine local capacity to host the database.

### High Knoll Fort

Duration	Started February 2023
Project Team	Shelley Magellan-Wade Supported by the Trust staff
Funding Organisations	SHG, the Trust
Project Partners	SHG, the Community

#### Project Objectives

To conserve High Knoll Fort and develop it into a structure that promotes island history, and caters to a range of recreational activities that can be carried out by the community.

#### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

A working group was set up including members of the community to provide a vision on how we can conserve High Knoll Fort. A draft Master Plan was created internally, and discussions were held between SHG and the Trust to determine how the Trust can lawfully manage the Fort, to raise funding, whilst not being held liable for the current poor state of the building.

Through partnership with the Tourism Development Fund, High Knoll Fort was cleaned, and new safety fences were installed at impacted wall.

## CULTURE

### Endangered Archives Programme

Duration	July 2021 to July 2023
Project Team	Shelley Magellan-Wade, Radka Henry, Aidan Plato, <i>Peter Crane</i>
Funding Organisations	British Library supported by Arcadia
Project Partners	British Library, SHG, St Helena Museum, Pearson Archaeology LTD

#### Project Objectives

To digitise the East India Company records of St Helena, South Atlantic Ocean. The material included approximately 374 books dated between 1673 and 1834.

#### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

The project was completed and report sent by deadline of October 2023. The project digitised 325 volumes and produced 110,742 images. This completed the works of the East India Company for the period of 1673 to 1834 when the East India Company handed the island back to the Crown.

### Trans-Atlantic Slave Memorial Project

The Trans-Atlantic Slave Memorial Project is one that has been ongoing since the liberated Africans were exhumed in Rupert's Valley 2008. The objective at this time was to provide a reburial. The project was originally led by SHG with Trust representation. In 2021 the project was brought under the Trust and led as a sub-Committee.

Duration	Started 2008
Project Team	Liberated African Advisory Committee (LAAC)
Funding Organisations	SHG, the Trust, Headley Trust
Project Partners	SHG, St Helena Heritage Society and Museum, Pearson Archaeology LTD, UK-St Helena Heritage Trust

#### Project Objectives

To remember, recognise and honour the victims of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and their legacy. The project includes providing a peaceful and respectful final resting place for the disturbed liberated African remains in storage at the Pipe Store, and to educate future generations on the lingering consequences of centuries-long enslavement of and trade in Africans.

#### Project Achievements for 2023-2024

In August 2023, we commemorated the first anniversary of the reburial of the exhumed liberated Africans. The Trust led this anniversary through attending all schools on the island and presenting the reburial process and the concept for the first anniversary. For the first anniversary, 325 pebble stones were painted with handprints of school children. Providing identities to the victims of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. These pebble stones were laid on the grave.

Initial exploratory works were carried out on restoring the No.1 building as an Interpretation Centre. The No.1 building was stripped of internal partitions in readiness for survey. A webinar presentation was provided by the UK-St Helena Heritage Trust to drum up support and possible donations to the creation of the Interpretation Centre.





# ADVOCACY

We advocate for sustainability and best practices to ensure St Helena's heritage is at the heart of decision-making.

We are a key actor in the SHG planning consultation process, and during the year had the opportunity to review and voice concerns on the Pipe Store being used as part of the current Prison service, and a lift being established on the Castle building. Our objections were based on the designs not being sympathetic to the heritage of the buildings.

We contribute to the SHG Darwin Plus Main project to develop Natural Conservation Areas Management Plans (DPLUS154). This is an ongoing process.



Staff receiving their certificates for customer services training

© SHNT

# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

## Education

In August 2023, the Trust completed and presented the Cloud Forest Primary Education Resource Pack. This Resource Pack was done in partnership with the St Helena Cloud Forest Project funded by the CSSF. It was presented during the school holidays with activities from the Pack at the Museum being delivered.

The Trust Education Resource packs supplements the National Curriculum being taught in the local schools and includes modelled classes and outdoor sessions using local heritage examples.



## Outreach

In January and February 2024, the Trust welcomed two high profile visitors. His Royal Highness, Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh visited the Millennium Forest, in January 2024, and had the opportunity to engage with our wire bird experts and invertebrate experts. His Royal Highness was introduced to the Cloud Forest Project and the other heritage work of the Trust.



His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Duke of Edinburgh visiting the Millennium Forest

© SHG



In February 2024, the Right Honourable Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP, Speaker of the UK House of Commons visited High Knoll Fort and the Rupert's liberated African Burial Ground. Meaningful discussions were held around the history, and future plans of the projects.



In November 2023, St Helena was designated as an international marine Hope Spot by Mission Blue, under the auspice of Dr Sylvia Earle. Hope Spots are recognised as special places, and being one-of-a-kind area of ocean that are acknowledged for their uniqueness and the contribution and efforts of their community to maintaining or improving global ocean health. This followed 20 years of dedication by St Helena to understand and protect the island's marine environment, with the most successfully being the designation of our Exclusive Economic Zone as a Marine Protected Area.

## Community Engagement

Over 1,500 people of which 1,390 were children engaged with the Trust's activities during the year, superseding last year's total of 868. The Trust has partnered with New Horizons and delivers a Wednesday Trust activity day during school holidays.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Whale Shark Festival was held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The event continued to take place at the Mule Yard, with appearance of Benny the Whale Shark, crafts and games, and virtual reality. The monies raised from the event goes towards the Education and Outreach programme.

## Social Media

We continue the Trust's social media presence. We found it a useful and more cost-effective communication hub, although the Trust is mindful that we must consider all demographics of our members and the community.

Whilst we did not have as much following this year to the previous, we did increase our new followers during the year, we had increased the number of times our content was seen (impressions) and our reach on newsfeeds.

Followers	New followers	Page & profile impressions	Page & profile reach
<b>3,784</b> followers	<b>698</b> new followers	<b>260,366</b> impressions	<b>202,317</b> users
▼ 138 from 3,922	▲ 632 from 66	▲ 212,932 from 47,434	▲ 166,099 from 36,218

Presenting the plastic pollution comic book to Harford Primary School

© SHNT



## 5. OUR RISKS

In March 2023, the Trust established its Governance Arrangements, including its strategic framework and risk management. Risk management is an essential element of the governance arrangements of the Trust. It allows us to plan effectively by identifying important risks that may hinder the development or grow of the Trust.

Below are the risks that are identified as the most severe risks for the Trust during 2023-2024, along with their mitigation and residual ratings.

Category	Risk	Raw Risk Rating			Mitigation Plans	Lead Officer	Lingering Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Impact	Rating			Likelihood	Impact	Rating
Project	The Trust does not complete its project activities due to areas being quarantined as it has pathogens present in sites identified for survey and invasive control	5	5	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alternative sites are selected to complete the activities</li> <li>- Arrangement for surveys at different dates</li> <li>- Alternative activities are carried out</li> <li>- Regular communications with Project Partners</li> </ul>	HOTC	2	3	6
Project	Experienced staff are lost due to the Trust not being able to complete project activities due to inability to access sites where pathogens are present	5	5	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create a contingency plan</li> <li>- Monitor situation closely and have regular updates with project partners on contingency planning</li> <li>- Create a list of potential projects for the Trust based on the Trust's strategy</li> </ul>	HOTC/SMT	2	3	6
Project	Project activities are not delivered on time due to lack of transport available for staff to attend fieldwork and site visits due to the Trust using an aging vehicle fleet	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff are to ensure they use vehicles with due diligence due to age of vehicle (as per vehicle use policy)</li> <li>- Vehicle fleet to be checked regularly (using a schedule)</li> <li>- SMT to carry out a review of vehicle fleet to project activities and make a action plan to replace aging vehicles</li> <li>- New project bids to include purchase of new vehicle in accordance to the vehicle fleet action plan</li> </ul>	ALL/SMT	2	2	4
Programme	High turnover of capable staff due to the Trust's inability to financially maintain contracts	3	5	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feasibility studies carried out during projects to determine longevity of activity</li> <li>- Fundraising/income generation plan developed</li> <li>- Contingency planning is carried out for completion of contracts</li> </ul>	SMT/DIR	2	3	6
Programme	The Trust's inability to take on projects due to lack of local capacity	4	5	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a training and development plan for the Trust to upskill local staff</li> <li>- Work with the Education Directorate on career development</li> <li>- Work with Trust partners on upskilling and career development for locals</li> </ul>	OM/DIR/SMT	4	3	12
Programme	The Trust spends unnecessary money due to lack of team work and willingness to share resources	4	4	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular team meetings, team building training and development</li> <li>- Cross training and development between different sections</li> <li>- Instill a sense of pride in delivering the Trust's objectives</li> <li>- Performance management and disciplinary policies enacted</li> </ul>	ALL	2	3	6



## 6. Our Finance 2023-2024

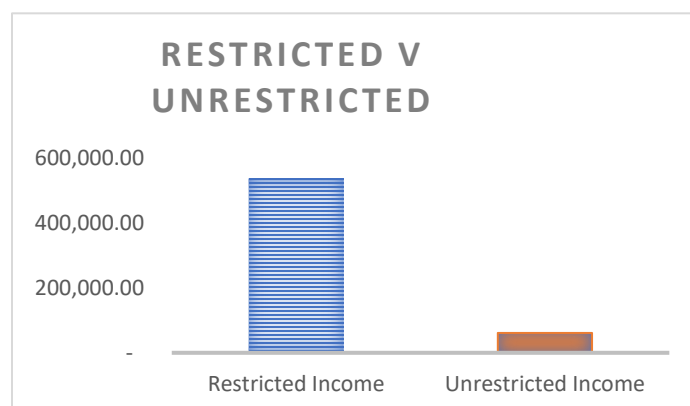
The Trust is excited to announce that once again this year, our operating income was over £500,000. A full audit engagement was carried out by Sayer Vincent LLP in London, UK, as required by the Interpretation Ordinance, 1968, Part II.

The Trust's financial position for 2023-2024 is as follows:

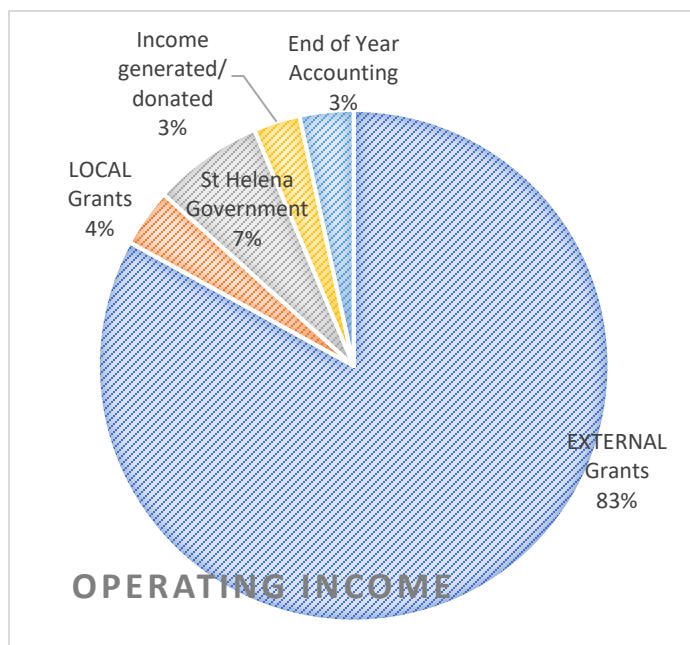
	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
Non-Current Assets	183,395	146,253
Current Assets	290,969	252,030
Current Liabilities	45,869	76,405
Net Current Assets	245,100	175,625
Non-Current Liabilities	89,716	63,906
Net Assets	<b>338,779</b>	<b>257,972</b>
Funds	176,700	108,955
Retained Surplus	162,079	149,017
Reserves	<b>338,779</b>	<b>257,972</b>

### Income

As a not-for-profit charitable organisation, the Trust seeks funding from external funding organisations, St Helena Government, memberships and donations.



The funding received are categorised as Restricted and Non-restricted funding. Non-restricted funding, is monies received mostly through donations, and memberships. Restricted funding is monies received from external funders and St Helena Government to carry out specific activities and achieve agreed outputs. Restricted funding cannot be diverted to suit any purpose.



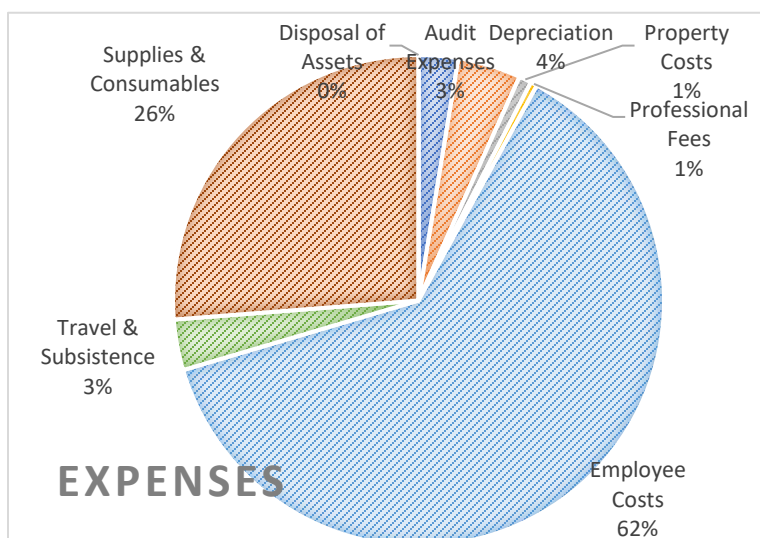
External funding continues to make up 83% of the Trust income. This year, for every £1 provided by SHG to the Trust under their Subsidy Policy 2020, the Trust returned it 12-fold to the island in external monies.

During 2023-24, the Trust was successful for seabird monitoring and predator control funding from the new Darwin Plus Local initiative. We were also awarded funding from the Headley Trust for the initial planning of the Interpretation Centre.

Other income was boosted with services provided to companies during their development.

## Expenses

Employee costs was the biggest expense for the Trust, with the number of staff as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 being 25. Our supplies and consumables remained roughly static, but our travel and subsistence, and professional fees reduced due to most of the support was carried out during the previous year.



## 7. Our Partners and Funders

The Trust's mission is to champion St Helena's heritage through collaborations and partnerships. Below are the Trust's partners and funders who made our work possible during the year.



There are also key people that continues to support and mentor the Trust:

- Dr Roger Keys
- Dr Andrew Pearson
- Professor Daniel Yon
- Assistant Professor Andreana Cunningham
- Annalea Beard



## 8. Our Organisation's Details

In accordance with Section 18 of the St Helena National Trust Ordinance, 2001 the Members of the National Trust Council submits the Annual Report.

Registered Charity Name: St Helena National Trust  
Registered Charity Number: C00010

Registered Company Name: SHNT (Guarantee) Ltd  
Registered Company Number: 100

Registered Office: Broadway House  
Main Street  
Jamestown  
St Helena Island  
South Atlantic Ocean  
STHL 1ZZ

Independent Examiner: **Sayer Vincent LLP**  
Invicta House  
108-114 Golden Lane  
London  
United Kingdom  
EC1Y 0L

Bankers: **Bank of St Helena**  
Market Street  
Jamestown  
St Helena Island  
South Atlantic Ocean  
STHL 1ZZ

Trust Council Members: (as at 31 March 2024)	President	Neil Fantom
	Vice-President	Michel Dancoisne-Martineau
	Treasurer	Christy Joshua
	Secretary	Vince Thompson
	Legislative Council	Honourable Andrew Turner
	St Helena Heritage Society	Adam Sizeland
	At Large Members	Lourens Malan
		Tracey Williams
		Kimberley Peters

Senior Management Team: (as at 31 March 2024)	Director	Helena Bennett
	Office Manager	Amanda Constantine
	Finance Manager	Angela Francis
	Head of Conservation (Terrestrial)	Martina Peters
	Head of Marine Conservation	Neil Thorpe
	Education and Outreach Officer	Sheena Benjamin
Staff: (as at 31 March 2024)	Marine (Ecology) Project Manager	Kenickie Andrews
	Marine Assistant	Louis Youde
	Marine Plastics Project Manager	N/A
	Marine Plastics Project Officer	Matthew Owen
	Millennium Forest Senior Nursery Officer	David Francis
	Millennium Forest Nursery Officer	David Peters
	Millennium Forest Senior Officer	Christopher Clingham
	Grasslands Project Manager	James Fantom
	Grasslands Project Senior Officer	Denis Leo
	Field and Livelihood Project Officer	Nico Benjamin
	Field and Monitoring Project Officer	Gavin Ellick
	Predator Control Officer	Mario Green
	Predator Control Assistant	Eric Crowie
	Invasive Invertebrate Project Manager	Natasha Stevens
	Invasive Invertebrate Field Officer	Christy-Jo Scipio O'Dean
	Invertebrate Field Officer	Daryl Joshua
	Invertebrate Specialist	Liza Fowler
	Built & Cultural Heritage Project Manager	Shelley Magellan-Wade
	Endangered Archives Project Officer	Radka Henry

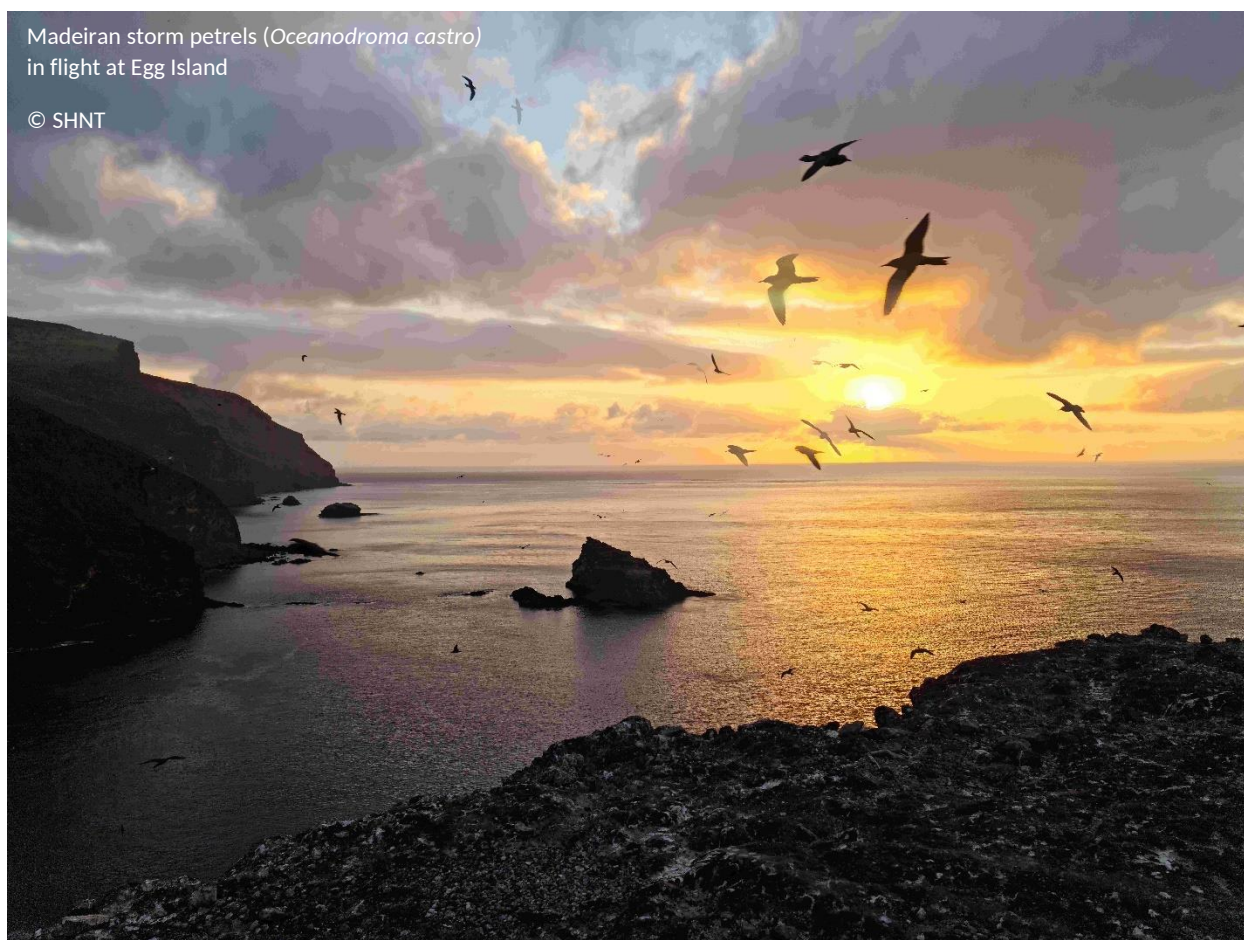
We are grateful to all our staff, apprentices, volunteers and work experience students who have helped throughout the year. Special thanks go to volunteers Andre and Diane Bak, Adam Riggs and Alyssa Hoogesteger.



## Thank you for supporting the St Helena National Trust!

The Trust relies on your generosity to maintain public spaces and most importantly deliver education and outreach to the local and international community on St Helena's built, cultural and natural heritage.

You can support us with this mission, by becoming a member of the Trust and / or giving a donation.



Madeiran storm petrels (*Oceanodroma castro*)  
in flight at Egg Island

© SHNT



[www.trust.org.sh](http://www.trust.org.sh)

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