



Jacob's Ladder, Jamestown



THE SOCIETY OF THE FRIENDS OF ST HELENA

Registered Charity No. 1000321

The Society of the Friends of St Helena was founded at an inaugural meeting in March 1988 and aims to provide information about the island of St Helena, including its history, culture, environment and current affairs; and also to provide practical support to the St Helenian community. In pursuit of its second aim, the society has supported an Island charity for the physically disabled and the revitalisation and ongoing development of the Island's Museum, which opened on 21 May 2002. £500 was recently given to the High Knoll Restoration appeal.

Membership

Membership of the society is open to individuals and groups, of any nationality, who support these aims. In addition to St Helenians living in the United Kingdom and elsewhere, membership includes many Friends who first came to know the Island by serving there in a professional capacity or by visiting it on holiday. Other members have never been to St Helena but have a special interest in some aspects of the Island's history, culture or physical environment.

Activities

Two meetings are held each year: The Annual General meeting in June at different venues around the country and an autumn meeting in October usually at the Victory Services Club, Marble Arch, London. At both these meetings, individuals closely involved with the island give talks and often are the authors of recently published works on a range of topics concerned with St Helena. A wide range of subjects have been presented over the years ranging from the island's geology, its plants and endemic species, its architecture, the story of its slave population, its role during the period when the Royal Navy tried to stamp out the trans-Atlantic slave trade and, perhaps

inevitably, the extraordinary years when the island hosted the captivity of Napoleon Bonaparte.

The meetings usually have an attendance of 60-70 members.

Magazines

“**The St Helena Connection**” is a full-colour news magazine published twice a year (June and November) with news from the island, the Society and containing diverse articles such as current events, people, St Helena's history and its ecology as well reviews of new books about the island. It is edited by our chairman Ian Mathieson.

We also publish “**Wirebird**” each year. This usually contains longer articles with a historical theme and is currently being expanded and developed by Colin Fox.

Web Site (www.friendsofsthelena.com) Our web site carries full information and the latest news about the Society. It includes a members-only section with includes several decades of back numbers of our two magazines and new information of historical and genealogical value.

TransferWise is probably the cheapest way for overseas members to pay their annual subscription. The website also has an automated PayPal payment option.

Subscriptions & Membership Contact Details

Please see overleaf for a form with full subscription

Privacy Issues

Our full policy on privacy issues is presented in full on our website. Our specific policy on the retention of membership contact details is as follows: *The Society will hold the contact details of all members in a membership database to which only nominated members of the Committee will have access. These details are needed for the Society to communicate with members and post magazines to them. It is assumed that by paying their subscription, new and existing members agree that to fulfil its obligations the Society must necessarily keep their contact details. Members can request the removal of their contact details from the Society's database by contacting the Membership Secretary, fosh@friendsofsthelena.com. Such a request is effectively an application to leave the Society. In the event of late payments of the subscription fee, the Membership Secretary will initially mark the member as Inactive (meaning they will not have access to member-only sections of the website) and will then delete the member and their contact details from the database a few months later.*

SUBSCRIPTION FEE

The Fee

Members pay either an annual or a life subscription, with annual subscriptions as follows:

£20 for members living in the UK £10 for members living at St Helena £30 for members living elsewhere £350 for life membership, wherever members live

Note: Only one person in a household now needs to be a member for their partner to attend our meetings. We now operate a moving annual subscription. This runs 12 months through to the last day of the month of the following year

How to Pay

1. By Standing Orders: This is administratively the best way to make payment. Please complete and (IMPORTANT) sign the third column. There is no need to do so if a Standing Order for the correct fee already exists, but in that case it would still be very helpful if you could complete your address, email and phone details and send the form to the Membership Secretary to keep our database updated.

2. By Cheque: Please complete the second column on this page. Note: Payment must be in UK pounds sterling, with the cheque drawn from a British bank.

3. By Internet: TransferWise is probably the cheapest way for overseas members to pay their annual subscription. The website also has an automated Paypal payment option. Note: Payment must be in UK pounds sterling. Our Membership Secretary Margaret Dyson will email all new members on receipt of payments made.

Please note: An acknowledgement will be emailed to members on receipt of payments. To minimise costs, an acknowledgement will NOT be sent by post unless specifically requested.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

If you pay UK income tax you might also like to make a Gift Aid Declaration. Having a charitable status, the Friends are able to reclaim tax on subscriptions therefore increasing value to the Society.

At no further cost to myself, I would like the tax to be reclaimed on any eligible donations or membership subscriptions that I have ever made, or will ever make to the Friends of St Helena, until further notice. I confirm that I pay an amount of UK income or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the Friends of St Helena will reclaim.

Signature:

Date:/...../...../

PLEASE COMPLETE TO PAY BY CHEQUE

Note: The cheque must be drawn from a UK bank and should be made payable to Friends of St Helena

Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

NAME:

TITLE:

ADDRESS:

.....

.....

.....

TELEPHONE:

MOBILE:

EMAIL:

Please enrol/re-enrol me as a member of the Society. I enclose:

A cheque for £ to cover my annual subscription

or

A cheque for £350 to cover the cost of Life Membership



Whether you are paying by Standing Order or a cheque, this form should be returned to:

**Margaret Dyson, Membership Secretary,
Braeside, Whitehough, Chinley, High Peak,
Derbyshire SK23 6EJ, United Kingdom
fosh@friendsofsthelena.com**

**Please do NOT send the Standing Order form
to your bank - we will do that**

THIS IS THE BEST METHOD FOR UK MEMBERS - PLEASE RETURN TO MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY WITH YOUR BANK DETAILS

TO: The Manager

..... Bank

Bank address:

.....

Sort Code: - - - - -

Please pay **the Society of the Friends of St Helena**

£ **annually**, starting date (see note below)

until further notice and debit my account no.

.....

Account name :.....

Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

NAME:

TITLE:

SIGNATURE:

ADDRESS:

.....

.....

.....

TELEPHONE:

MOBILE:

EMAIL:

Note: Please post-date by two weeks because most banks only process standing orders that start at a future date.

For FoSH use only:

Lloyds Bank (Sort Code 30-95-72) 189 Bath Road, Cheltenham, Glos. GL53 7LY

Please accept the above amended order to account no. 00909658 in favour of the *Society of the Friends of St Helena*