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SENTINEL

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The Story of a Boat named 'St Albatros'





London to Paris

Saint Scott Thomas cycles 173 miles in epic Capital to Capital journey



On the Road Again

Resurfacing works to Ladder Hill Road off to a good start



OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Anita Robbertse, SAMS

Positivity! This has kind of been Deon and my focus over the past couple of years. Anyone reading my previous comments and listening to his Wednesday morning show will know this to be the case.

When encouraging people to think about the positives, I do not imply that one might not have reasons to be negative about things. Sometimes it does feel like things are just too much. It is more a case of choosing to stay positive in the face of adversity.

Recently I had a very interesting interview with adventurer and author, Riaan Manser. In the interview he said that commitment for him is when you do have excuses but you choose not to use them. Although it is challenging, I think it is often a question of changing one's mindset.

It becomes very easy to focus only on the negative and this increases feelings of despair and discontent, becoming a vicious cycle that keeps us captive. If we allow ourselves to get sucked in by negative feelings, we will be unable to see any positives after a while.

In Luke and Matthew in the Bible it refers to a similar principle: "For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks." Maybe it is time that we take time to listen to ourselves speak. If we only speak negative words, our hearts and minds are filled with negativity.

I want to go so far as to liken negative thoughts to how weeds grow. No-one plants them and no-one tends to them or takes care of them, yet they thrive. But something beautiful and precious needs to be nurtured and encouraged to grow.

Let us all contribute in a small way to make the world a better place by nurturing the positive and the good things in the world and the community we live in.

Wishing you all a week filled with positivity.

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YOUR LETTERS

SAVE the Date

Emergency Services to hold exciting Open Day on 22 August



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

On Friday, 22 August, the Emergency Services of St Helena will be hosting an Open Day at the Sea Rescue Base in Rupert's to showcase the work undertaken by this vitally important section of SHG, giving the community a greater understanding and appreciation for the role this service plays in ensuring the safety of our community.

Commencing at 10am, the day is planned to be packed with 'live' demonstrations and interactive activities, while refreshments will also be on sale. Prizes will be up for grabs for participating in some activities.

This day aims to provide an opportunity for school children (during school holidays), public service teams, and the wider public to not only enjoy a fun day, but also to enjoy an educational experience, learning more about what the Emergency Services do.

There will be stalls for each of the individual services represented on the day. Demonstrations will be presented by the Ambulance, Police, Fire and Sea Rescue services. The promised highlight of the demonstrations will be a multi-agency demonstration where the service will showcase what an emergency response to a certain scenario would entail involving a "rusty blue car" currently in the Sea Rescue parking lot.

The demonstrations will be followed by a refreshment break preceding the novelty races, rope tying competition and the fire truck pull. The public is encouraged to come and challenge responders in all these events and see whether they can beat their level of excellence. The day will end off with an event called 'Hit the target'. During this event, some prominent members of the public service will serve as 'targets' for a water bucket shower. Anel O'Bey, Deputy Emergency Planning Manager, said this activity is "just to show that we are all part of this team no matter what your position or rank is."

Everyone is encouraged to come along and participate in this special day to enjoy the fun that will undoubtedly be had, while also learning more about what the emergency services do and how they contribute to the safety of our island community. They look forward to seeing you there!

The Story of a Boat named 'St Albatros'

SHG refute claims made by TGFC's Malcolm Williams of "illegal fishing" by STC Fishing Vessel, St Albatros, after her maiden voyage to Bonaparte Seamount, however they announce an investigation into potential breaches of international maritime law due to alleged broadcasting of "false identification" as Malcolm shares his findings on Social Media and STC provides clarity to The Sentinel on vessel's registration and recent deregistration from South Africa





Liam Yon, SAMS

The St Albatros, a fishing vessel procured by Saints Tuna Corporation (STC), and brought to St Helena earlier this year, recently conducted its first fishing trip to the Bonaparte Seamount; triggering a response via Social Media by Malcolm Williams, Founder of The Green Fish Company, amid claims of "illegal fishing" by the Albatros and questions around the boat's origins and authenticity due to "false identification" being broadcast by the vessel's Automatic Identification System (AIS).

SHG have also weighed in "to provide clarity on the vessel's licensing and to update the public on the status of its operations and recent reports," where they dispute the claims of illegal fishing, but announce an investigation into potential breaches of International Maritime Law through the broadcasting of alleged "false identification" information from the vessel's AIS.

It was on 2 August when Malcolm took to 'St Helena's Online Talk Group' on Facebook, where he stated that "contravening its own policy, St Helena Government has this week allowed the sale of fresh yellow fin tuna caught in St Helenian waters by a foreign registered vessel (St Albatros) whilst it was broadcasting false AIS information to global marine agencies all around the world."

Malcolm continued by stating that, according to policy, "no foreign registered vessels are permitted to fish within the island's 200 nautical mile exclusion zone" before adding that "evidence gathered from Marine Traffic, Vessel Finder and Global Tuna Watch over the past two weeks clearly shows the Albatros as being a South African registered/ flagged vessel whilst fishing in St Helena's waters." The policy which Malcolm refers was confirmed to be the Fishing Operations Agreement between SHG and STC.

SHG however, have refuted the claim regarding foreign vessels not being allowed to fish in St Helena waters. On Monday, in their response



Albatros enroute to Bonaparte under SA Flag

ST HELENA NEWS

St Helena Government

St Helena Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolio

Offshore Commercial Fishing Licence

The St. Helena Government (SHG) in exercise of the powers under The Fisheries Ordinance, 2021 grants this Offshore Commercial Fishing Licence to allow **angling, spearfishing and potting** within St. Helena's Marine Protected Area (MPA).

Name: **Johann-Marais Bezuidenhout, PQ Trading (STH) Ltd**	*Licence Number:* **CL(O) 001-2025**	
Address: **Ruperts Coldstore**	*Date of Issue:* **1 June 2025**	*Date of Expiry:* **31 December 2025**
Country: **St. Helena**	*Date of Birth:* **4 March 1977**	
Vessel Name: **St Albatros**	*Vessel Licence Number:* **153**	
Named Agents/Named Master(s)s: **1. Johann-Marais Bezuidenhout**	*Role:* **Master**	
2. Dorian Caswell	**Master**	

This licence is granted subject to the licence holder, including named agents listed above, adhering to the terms and conditions specified below.

Important Advice:

- This licence does not convey authority for actions prohibited by any other legislation.
- All queries relating to this licence must be directed to the St Helena Government's Chief Fisheries Officer in the first instance.
- This licence may be revoked or suspended if it is deemed necessary or expedient for the regulation of sea fishing.
- Any licence issued on the basis of false or misleading information will be invalid and will be revoked.

to reports, they stated that "under the provisions of the Fisheries Ordinance 2021, it is possible for a foreign vessel to obtain a licence." They add that the St Albatros "was fishing under the terms of a licence issued by the Chief Fisheries Officer," and that "the St Albatros is licensed to undertake both commercial and exploratory fishing in St Helena's waters."

Another of Malcolm's concerns focussed on the AIS data and information being broadcast by the St Albatros' during their recent fishing trip. The St Albatros measures 13.65m x 5m, however Malcolm said that he had "confirmed with the South African vessel registry" that the vessel's AIS "actually belongs to a 19m x 15m long-line vessel that is no longer in service and was last reported by Global Fishing Watch sailing towards Walvis Bay in Namibia in February this year for decommissioning."

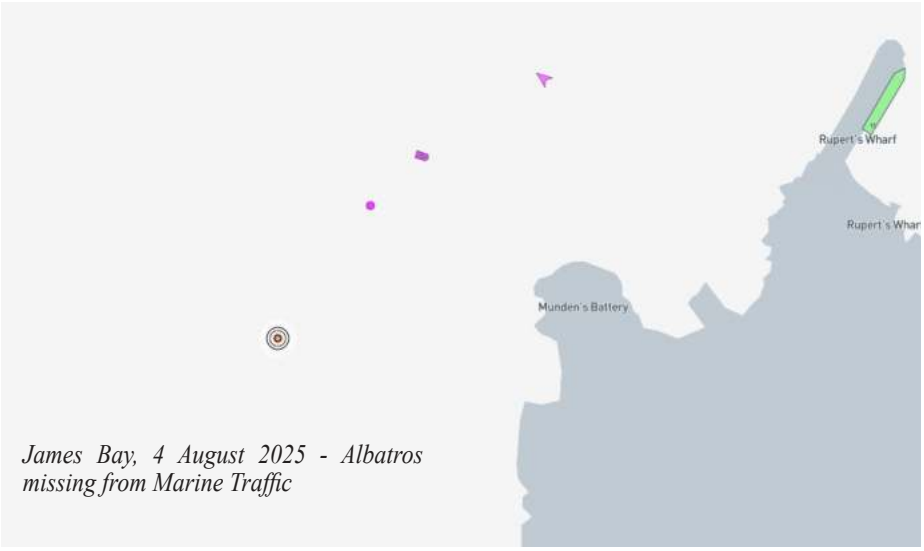
There were also claims by Malcolm, through his investigations, that the Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number associated with the St Albatros (601927600) – similar to a car's VIN number – and its call-sign, was also from another separate vessel. He indicated that this had been presented to SHG officials.

One thing he also noted was how, "for some strange reason, after the evidence was reported to SHG, the Albatros' AIS stopped broadcasting." In a follow-up post, he noted how "the AIS system on the Albatros has been disabled and the vessel is no longer visible on Marine Traffic" to which he raised concerns. "Is this in an attempt to hide a vessel with an incorrect MMSI from relevant authorities and global monitoring agencies? Or to allow the installation of a new system, programmed with the right information?" he quizzed. "Either way, both are highly illegal because the vessel should have travelled to St Helena with the correct AIS/MMSI installed and by law, the AIS should be broadcasting at all times. There are no excuses for it not being within receiver range moored in James Bay."

STC Director, Johann Bezuidenhout, admitted to The Sentinel that he was not aware of the incorrect data being broadcast by the vessel's AIS and that the vessel had simply "travelled as bought, with her onboard AIS" that was already installed. "I had no reason to believe that anything was not as it should be," he explained. "It may be that whoever entered the data did so incorrectly or the unit may have been bought second hand with previous details already entered and never corrected. I do not know."

Johann did inform that he had "more than three weeks ago" installed a backup AIS onboard the St Albatros called an Angelfish from S3C – a renowned maritime tech provider – and that "this same unit has been in successful use on the island for more than three years." Continuing on, addressing concerns with the AIS, Johann explained that "when the vessel's power is off, the onboard AIS does not transmit and will seem to be switched off." He added that "the second one is a standalone solar powered one that should transmit, however for some reason it has not been picked up by Marine Traffic" before indicating that, as such, he is "in communication with S3C to rectify this."

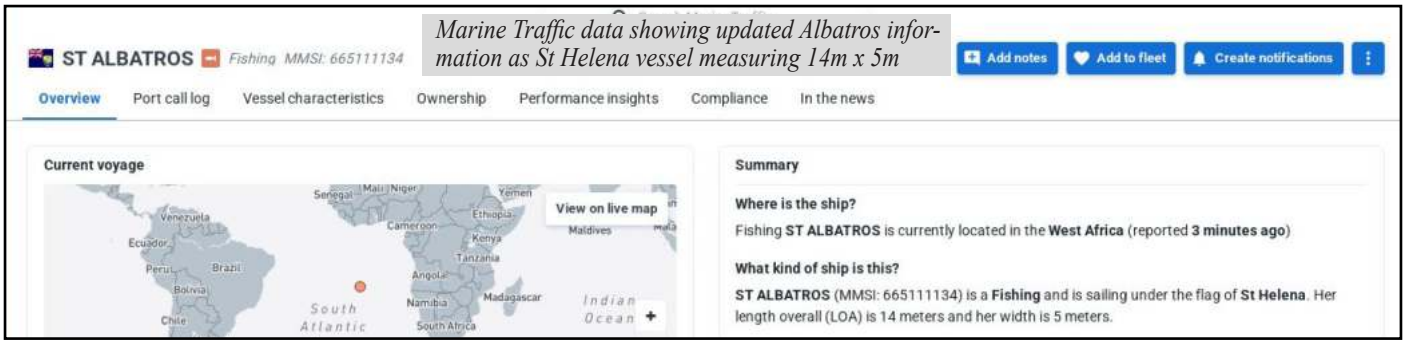
SHG also backed this explanation in their response. "One of the conditions of the fishing licence requires the



James Bay, 4 August 2025 - Albatros missing from Marine Traffic



Marine Traffic data showing Albatros as South African vessel measuring 19m x 15m



Marine Traffic data showing updated Albatros information as St Helena vessel measuring 14m x 5m

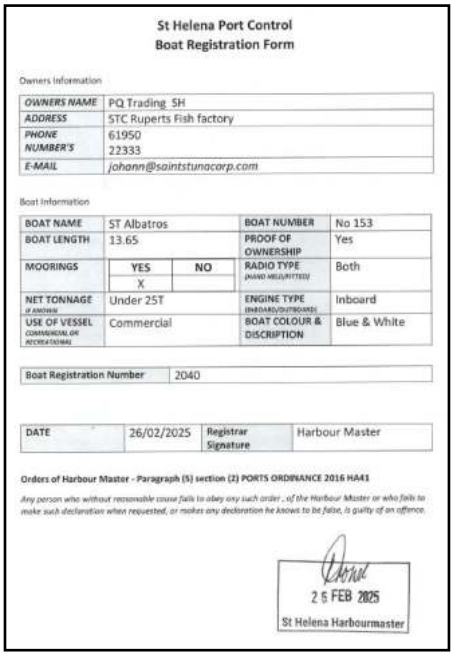
vessel to have a fully functioning Automatic Identification System (AIS) in place to aid the tracking and identification of the vessel whilst at sea," they explained. "The Albatros is equipped with an AIS, however on the return of the vessel from fishing, the vessel owner advised SHG that the vessel had being experiencing problems with its AIS during its fishing trip which impacted its ability to be tracked during the entire trip. As a result, he would be seeking guidance on its repair before undertaking any further fishing."

On Monday, the vessel's AIS data was back online, this time with the St Albatros under the flag of St Helena and with a new call-sign and MMSI number. Malcolm picked up on this. "Within the last half-hour, the St Albatros has popped-up on Marine Traffic as a St Helenian registered vessel, displaying MMSI 665111134 and Call-Sign ZHRR," he said. "This is really strange because if you enter the original MMSI number on Marine Traffic it still shows a South African registered vessel in St Helena. Furthermore, the dimensions broadcasting from the new MMSI is still showing as a 19m x 15m vessel." This has since been checked by The Sentinel on Wednesday, and the correct dimensions have now been updated when viewing the St Albatros on Marine Traffic.

Malcolm went on to air his disbelief at what he felt was happening. "It is absolutely unbelievable and astounding that this is being allowed to continue; that SHG officials have stood aside and allowed a vessel with an illegal AIS/MMSI/Call-sign to arrive on St Helena and even worse, when suspicions were raised, you allowed it to uninstall an illegal system and install a new system that continues to broadcast incorrect data," he bemoaned. "It's now clear to me that instead of taking the necessary action to protect the integrity of St Helena and the fishery, every effort has been made to assist the Albatros to hide its illegal operation and AIS/MMSI/Call-Sign and to re-emerge as a completely new vessel, all whilst been sat on her mooring in James Bay. Is this a case of aiding and abetting?"

This changing of information from the vessel's AIS, including the flag, MMSI number and call-sign, was however attributed to the St Albatros' deregistration process from South Africa as explained by SHG in their response to reports. "Following the completion of the fishing trip, the vessel owner and Vessel Registry Authority in SA advised SHG that the Albatros had been de-registered in SA at the request of the vessel owner," they informed. "As part of this de-registration process, the vessel's owner is required to remove all previous registry status from the vessel's GPS, AIS, and other transmitting systems, as well as the physical registry markings on the vessel itself. This is a critical step to ensure the vessel is not interpreted as claiming to be flagged to a country where it is no longer registered."

This would seem to explain the observation by Malcolm that, suspiciously to him, details previously located on the stern of the vessel had been painted over following the vessel's return from the sea mounts. Johann further



St Helena Port Control
Boat Registration Form

Owners Information

OWNERS NAME	PQ Trading SH
ADDRESS	STC Ruperts Fish factory
PHONE NUMBER'S	61950 22333
E-MAIL	johann@saintstunacorp.com

Boat Information

BOAT NAME	ST Albatros			BOAT NUMBER	No 153
BOAT LENGTH	13.65			PROOF OF OWNERSHIP	Yes
MOORINGS	YES X	NO		RADIO TYPE (HAND HELD/FIXED)	Both
NET TONNAGE (IF KNOWN)	Under 25T			ENGINE TYPE (INBOARD/OUTBOARD)	Inboard
USE OF VESSEL (COMMERCIAL OR RECREATIONAL)	Commercial			BOAT COLOUR & DISCRIPTION	Blue & White

Boat Registration Number	2040

DATE	26/02/2025	Registrar Signature	Harbour Master

Orders of Harbour Master - Paragraph (5) section (2) PORTS ORDINANCE 2016 HA41

Any person who without reasonable cause fails to obey any such order, of the Harbour Master or who fails to make such declaration when requested, or makes any declaration he knows to be false, is guilty of an offence.

25 FEB 2025
St Helena Harbourmaster

confirmed that the vessel was "deleted from the SA registry on 29 July 25" hence the need to remove the markings previously displayed on the vessel.

Other concerns by Malcolm related to the origins of the St Albatros due to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in South Africa providing information which detail the sale of just three vessels bearing the name 'Albatros' in the last 15 years in South Africa; the last of which was sold in 2019. Furthermore, he stated that no vessel by the name of St Albatros could be found on any registry in South Africa during this time. This also raised questions.

"How did a vessel bearing the name ST ALBATROS depart South Africa, sail across international

waters and be accepted in James Bay by SHG officials with an unregistered name displayed, and how did the same vessel clear St Helena Customs?" he questioned. "Was falsified documents presented by the Captain or owner? Were these thoroughly checked before a fishing licence was granted?"

In response to this, Johann explained to The Sentinel that the vessel was renamed to 'St Albatros' in November 2024 and was registered as 'St Albatros' in Cape Town by the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) during a dry dock on 14 January 2025, prior to her travel to St Helena. She has since been deregistered in South Africa, and can now be considered a local vessel as Boat No. 153 as detailed on the STC's St Helena Port Control Boat Registration Form, dated February 2025.

While SHG has seemingly refuted claims of illegal fishing by confirming that the St Albatros was fishing under a licence issued by their Chief Fisheries Officer, and while they have indicated an acceptance to the issues being experienced with the vessel's AIS during the recent fishing trip, they did indicate that they are taking claims of potential breaches to International Maritime Law seriously, with an investigation to take place.

"We have received reports concerning potential breaches of international maritime law by the St Albatros and are looking into the matter," they said. "To ensure a comprehensive and impartial review, we are seeking expert advice from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) in the UK. We are committed to protecting our marine environment and upholding international standards, and we will keep the public informed of the findings of the investigation when they become available."

Following the response from St Helena Government, Malcolm has again took to social media to reiterate his findings and suspicions with regard to the St Albatros, particularly the vessel's origins in terms of its name and identity and it's purchase by STC as part of the match-funding of £500,000 as agreed with SHG. He also highlights that while SHG refutes claims of illegal fishing under the provisions of the Fisheries Ordinance, he notes that what is not mentioned "is that in an agreement between SHG and STC there is a clause that prohibits any foreign registered vessel from fishing within St Helena's 200nm EEZ for a period of 10-years."

Malcolm also sought to add that "all of the actions taken by SHG and the STC Management, has been done after the event, and importantly, only after I first alerted SHG officials of my concerns," something which he described as "mysterious".

Johann, after issuing The Sentinel with information and explanations with regards to the St Albatros' AIS and registration (and deregistration) in South Africa, chose to provide "no comment on Malcolm's interpretations."



Johann-Marais Bezuidenhout



Malcolm Williams

Through the Lens

WHERE COULD YOUR FAVOURITE SUBJECT TAKE YOU? From St. Helena Secondary School to the World: Your Academic Passport to Success- Written By *Ed Oyewo*

As Year 10 students at St. Helena Secondary School prepare for their GCSE exams planned for the next academic year, many wonder: *"What's the point of studying this subject? Where will it actually take me?"*

The answer might surprise you. Your favourite subject isn't just a grade on a certificate – it's your launching pad to opportunities you've never imagined, both here on St. Helena and around the world.



Love English? Become a Storyteller

Think English is just about Shakespeare? Think again. English students become journalists covering breaking news in London, screenwriters for Netflix series, or digital marketing managers helping St. Helena's tourism industry reach global audiences. Your essays today could become tomorrow's travel blogs promoting our island paradise.

Maths: Your Gateway to Tech- Every app on your phone, every online purchase, every satellite that brings us internet – they all run on maths. Mathematics graduates work for companies like Google, design video games, or manage the financial systems that connect St. Helena Bank to the world. Some even return to help modernize our island's infrastructure.

Science: Solving Tomorrow's Problems- Biology students become marine conservationists protecting our unique endemic species. Physics graduates might work on renewable energy projects – imagine designing solar farms for St. Helena! Chemistry students could develop new medicines or work in forensic labs solving crimes.

Geography: Beyond the Classroom- Geography isn't just memorizing capitals. It's understanding climate change, planning sustainable cities, or working with satellite technology. Geography graduates help governments plan disaster responses or work with the St. Helena's shipping services to optimize shipping routes.

History: Learning from the Past- History students become museum curators, documentary filmmakers, or diplomatic advisors. They might work at Longwood House, preserving Napoleon's legacy, or research St. Helena's role in the abolition of slavery for international organizations.

The St. Helena Advantage

Our unique position in the South Atlantic gives Saints special insights into island life, maritime history, and remote community challenges. Universities and employers worldwide value this perspective. Many Saints have used their education to travel the globe, then returned with skills to benefit our community.

Your Subject, Your Future

Don't choose subjects based on what seems "practical." Choose what excites you. Passion drives success, and success opens doors you never knew existed.

The world needs problem-solvers, creative thinkers, and passionate individuals. Whether your future lies in Jamestown, London, Cape Town, or anywhere in between, your favourite subject is the first step on that journey.

Till Next Time, Keep Well!

On the Road Again

Resurfacing works to Ladder Hill Road off to a good start



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

The expected re-surfacing of Ladder Hill Road commenced as scheduled on Monday, 4 August, just after 9am – which was to allow commuters to travel into town for the last time for the next three weeks – with works so far progressing well.

Although the closure was subject to weather conditions, Monday turned out to be an unseasonable warm sunny August day on St Helena. This gave the Roads Section a welcome start to the road works after all the delays and setbacks that had been plaguing them up to now.

The Roads Section recently announced that they were relieved and delighted that the quality of the new shipment of bitumen received on Voyage 7 of the MV Karoline was suitable to continue with the re-surfacing works after the previous batch proved unusable.



On Monday, the team could be seen working on Ladder Hill Road with the Minimac Slurry Paver, re-surfacing this main artery into town. It seemed as if good progress had been made and all travellers affected by the road closure will undoubtedly keep their fingers crossed that this successful start to works will continue in order to enable the roads section to complete it on schedule.

"We are very happy to finally start this work after the unexpected delays we had," commented Deon Robbertse, Roads Manager, on Monday afternoon. "Hopefully the weather will play along to ensure we can finish the work as quickly as possible and have the road opened on time."

Deon further indicated that "so far, everything is going well after good production achieved on Monday," and had some welcome words for his team. "I am very proud of the Roads Section team, they stayed positive, even after the negative news of the unsuitable bitumen, and they are eager to complete this project on time. Now, the weather must just be on our side."

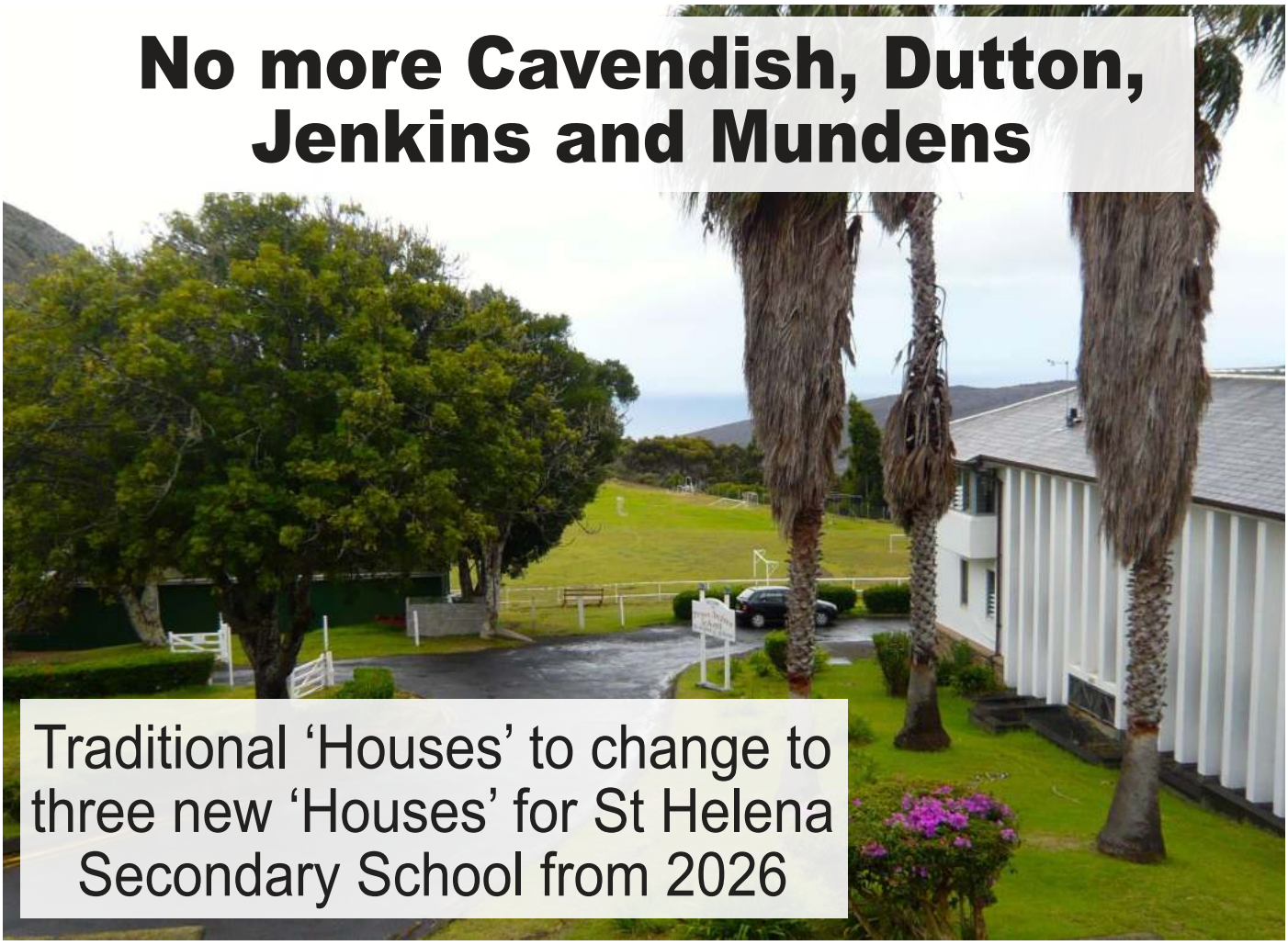
Although the expected three-week closure will cause some disruptions for commuters from the Western side of the island, it is hoped that the work undertaken to improve the road surface of this much-used main access road, will make it worth the inconvenience.







No more Cavendish, Dutton, Jenkins and Mundens



Traditional 'Houses' to change to three new 'Houses' for St Helena Secondary School from 2026

Liam Yon, SAMS

2026 is set to be a year of major change to the Island's Education Portfolio.

September next year will see the start of the new Primary School structure for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, removing the longstanding three Primary Schools of Harford, St Paul's and Pilling and replacing these with two new schools on the existing sites of the current Harford and St Paul's buildings. Also from September, changes will commence at the recently renamed St Helena Secondary School, with the move from four houses to three in a new-look house system for secondary students.

Since the opening of the Island's only secondary school back in 1989, there have always been four traditional houses – namely Cavendish, Dutton, Jenkins and Mundens – with students, current and former, carrying a sense of pride in the House that they represent.

However, from September 2026, these four houses will no longer exist and will instead be reduced to three newly-named houses, a change driven by the current student body numbering fewer than 200 which has brought about challenges "in forming competitive teams for sports and other house-based activities," as detailed by SHG.

"To address these challenges and ensure a more balanced and engaging experience for all students, the Senior Leadership Team, with support from the PE teachers, proposed a reduction in the number of houses from four to three," they further explained. "This proposal has been approved by the Portfolio Advisory Board."

They go on to inform how, "rather than simply eliminating one of the existing houses, the school will introduce three entirely new houses." It was added that this transition "will involve a comprehensive student-led process" to select new house names and mascots over the coming weeks.

SHG went on to reveal how "the Portfolio Advisory Board has committed to supporting this transition" and have "generously" agreed to provide each student with a free t-shirt for their new house along with other branded items like banners, which they say will "help cultivate pride and identity within the new house structure."

Ahead of the September 2026 launch, all students will be allocated to one of the new houses, with SHG indicating that "careful consideration" will be given to sporting ability, ensuring "balanced and fair teams" for each new house.

The school described this move from next year as "a positive step forward, enhancing student engagement and fostering a strong sense of community within the new house system."

While they look forward to the "upcoming refresh and re-launch" of the school house system, the upcoming academic year for 2025/26 will still see students compete for Cavendish, Dutton, Jenkins, and Mundens for the final time.

It will no doubt be sad for students, past and present, to see the discontinued use of the four traditional school houses that have fostered pride and healthy competition for many years on St Helena. However, it will also be an exciting change as the new era of education on St Helena continues to take shape.

“It has been a pleasure”

Bennett’s Ltd step away as New Horizons takes over management of Jamestown Swimming pool



Liam Yon, SAMS

The management of the Jamestown Swimming Pool has switched from Bennett’s Ltd to the New Horizon’s Youth Club after two recent announcements confirming the change was made by both parties through social media.

Back in 2021, Elaine Bennett of Bennett’s Ltd was contracted by St Helena Government to take on the management and running of St Helena’s one and only operating public swimming pool down at the Sea Front in Jamestown.

Bennett’s limited reopened the pool in October 2021, offering a wide variety of pool activities and taking it into a new era where they have enjoyed many successes over the past nearly four years.

However, it was on Wednesday of last week when Bennett’s Ltd announced that they would no longer be managing the Jamestown swimming pool. “It has been a pleasure to provide a service to the island and watch our community grow into safe confident swimmers,” they said in a post on Facebook. “Thank you for your custom and support over the years and we wish the new management every success.”

Following this, the next day, the New Horizons Youth Club confirmed rumours that they would now take on the management of the popular sporting venue in lower Jamestown. “New Horizons would like to announce that they will be operating the Jamestown Swimming Pool with effect from 1 August 2025, with opening times remaining the same,” they revealed in a post to their social media page.

SAMS would like to thank Bennett’s Ltd for their services over the past few years and extends congratulations and best wishes to the New Horizons in taking on the operations of the Jamestown Swimming Pool going forward.

‘Restoring a globally significant Cloud Forest’

News from the St Helena Cloud Forest Project

Welcome to another ‘news bite’ from the St Helena Cloud Forest Project!

Today, we are excited to announce the publishing of our year 4 Annual Report.

The project’s Annual Report for the year 2024/25 is now available on our webpage:
https://sthelenatourism.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/SHCFP-Y4-Annual-Report-V3.pdf



This document includes detailed information, images and charts covering the St Helena Cloud Forest Project through Year 4 (24/25), sharing some of the important achievements made and challenges faced. We also cover other key topics such as our financial accounts, training and capacity building, advocacy and communications, and project promotion.



A huge shout out to all of the teams across each pillar of the project for your continued passion and dedication as we all work together to restore and safeguard St Helena’s precious and globally significant cloud forest habitat for water, wildlife and people!

BE sure to check out our year 4 annual report via the webpage.

Be sure to follow the St Helena Peaks National Park on Facebook, and @StHelenaPNP on X, to stay up to date with all the latest news and information on the FCDO-funded St Helena Cloud Forest Project

Scan the QR Codes below for quick access to:

Website Facebook Twitter/X

London to Paris

Saint Scott Thomas cycles 173 miles in epic Capital to Capital journey



Donna Crowie, SAMS

Saint Helenian, Scott Thomas, recently completed an incredible challenge that he set himself; cycling the 173mile journey from London, UK, to Paris, France, in just three days.

Since September 2024, Scott had been planning this northwest journey. Once the bicycles were sourced in February, and a few weeks before the journey the booking for Airbnbs were confirmed, all that was left was to waiting for the date to arrive.

Scott told The Sentinel how he came up with the idea of cycling to France. "I came across a YouTuber that had found a bicycle in London for free; from his video I copied the idea nearly identically," he recalled. "The YouTuber found a free bicycle in London, restored it, and then rode it from London to Paris over the course of three days."

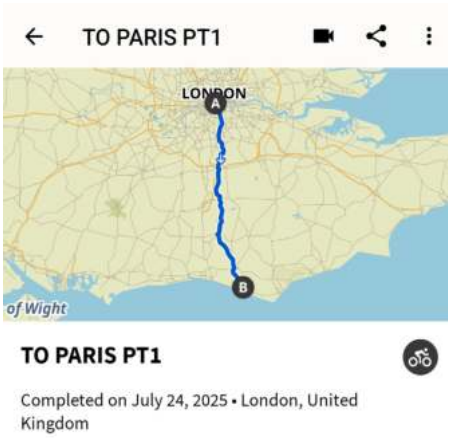
Similarly, Scott then set about restoring a few second hand bicycles, and found others willing to undertake the challenge as well. "A friend from work was also up for the challenge and he invited his brother along too," he told. A few weeks later, Scott then met another enthusiastic cyclist in Oxford that was keen on the adventure as well.

With over 170miles to travel, Scott and his three keen cyclists started from the iconic London Eye and cycled the 60miles to Newhaven before catching the ferry to Dieppe where they arrived around 10pm; completing day one. The second day, the four-strong group travelled the 57mile journey travelling through the French countryside which Scott indicated as, "halfway between the coast and Paris." On day three, the final day, the boys completed the last 56miles, cycling to their final destination, the symbolic Eiffel Tower in Paris, "just in time for the ending of the Tour De France" though Scott said he "unfortunately didn't get to see this, as my flight back was a bit early."

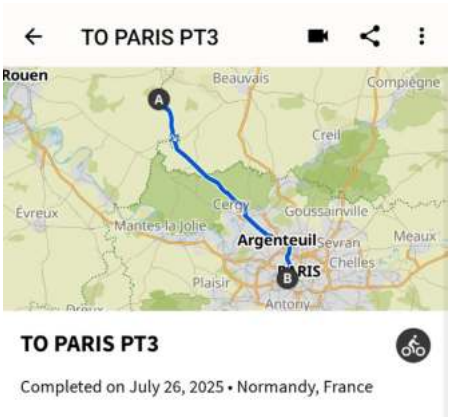
Once the boys made it to Paris, their bicycles were given away, again following what the YouTuber that inspired the journey did as well. However, giving the bicycles away in the heart of Paris was "a bit more difficult than expected," according to Scott, "as there were loads of tourists around at the time. Eventually we met Bruno, who agreed to take the bicycles and pass them on to either a new owner or to a local charity in Paris."

On reflection, Scott noted that the most difficult challenge he faced was "riding for four hours a day, and then having to get up and do the same the next day," adding that "being seated for that amount of time on a bicycle that isn't optimized for me, covering









this distance, was tough."

For Scott, the easy part of the whole expedition was the repair and sourcing of the bikes. "They were stripped to the bare minimum and refurbished to decent working order again," he recalled. "Lots of Amazon deliveries for the parts, and a few from a bicycle repair shop in Oxford, where I also sourced one of the bikes from. "

Scott went on to reveal that, despite the challenges, his favourite time was "cycling along the county roads and visiting small towns that you wouldn't normally see if you drove this route. It was really nice staying in the beautiful French countryside."

One of the humorous parts of the journey was the boys trying to communicate with people who only spoke French, as the group spoke very little French. Speaking on his fellow cyclists though, Scott stated that, "they were the best bunch of mates to join along on this trek and made the trip fun and enjoyable."

Cycling over 170miles was not only a personal accomplishment for Scott, as he also raised around £500 through donors from St Helena and the UK for the Hummingbird Centre from Bicester. Hummingbird is a cancer supporting and therapy centre for those what are affected and living with cancer.







This was close to Scott's heart after losing his Grandma, Doreen Bagley, to Cancer. "This felt very appropriate since many people are going through recovery without support," he explained. "Although the Charity cannot support everyone, every small bit donated will help a family battling Cancer to prevail."

With a lengthy cycle completed, Scott now has itchy feet for doing yet another cycling adventure, however a new location has not yet been decided. He did mention that initially his plan was to cycle around Spain however he found "that was hard to complete as we needed to get bicycles there first, proving more difficult than just cycling from the UK." Having ticked off one epic journey, no doubt Scott will be back on the bicycle soon for his next exciting adventure. Great job Scott!





£100k raised, 10 applicants supported

Successful six months for new charity St Helena Medical Support Fund



Liam Yon, SAMS

The St Helena Medical Support Fund is still a relatively new charity on the Island, having only been registered at the start of this year with the aim of having a fund that supports overseas medical referral patients from St Helena; however in just six months, it has raised £100,000 and supported ten applicants with financing their off-Island medical referral expenses.

The success of the SHMSF is no doubt down to their hugely popular fundraising initiative – the monthly SHMSF Sweepstake - that kicked-off in January and became an instant hit for both residents on the Island as well as Saints abroad.

Starting at 800 numbers and moving that to 1000 numbers after its early success, the Sweepstake brings in £20,000 per month currently, with tickets at £20 per number per person. The majority of this goes back out as prize money, with the large sums of the cash prizes each month the main draw for those taking part. So far, £75,000 in cash prizes have been given out by the SHMSF through the monthly sweepstake, including "life-changing" sums including £5000 in the inaugural draw, and £4000 in the most recent edition.

The popularity of the sweepstake has done as it was intended and raised valuable funds for the SHMSF in order to action their goal, which is to support medical referral patients – with the SHMSF Chairperson revealing recently that, since March, ten applicants have been supported through the charity.

"Thank you to everyone who has supported the St Helena Medical Support Fund Sweepstake," said Susan Knipe. "For the six months from January to June we have raised a whopping £100,000.00 with £75,000.00 having been given in prize money. The fund has helped ten applicants since March, and as at the end of June, has a balance of £18,706.55."

Those on-Island who would like support from the charity for you overseas medical referral are being encouraged to contact any members of the SHMSF for an application form.

The August Sweepstake numbers are set to go live via the Facebook Group on Friday, 15 August, with the draw scheduled to take place on Friday, 29 August. Good luck everybody!



Come Together, Right Now

Plans for upcoming Agriculture Show Day underway but help is needed



Donna Crowie, SAMS

Despite being something that happened regularly at Francis Plain over the years, St Helena has not seen an Agriculture Show Day having been hosted on the Island since the former Enterprise St Helena was still in operation; though plans are now underway for an event to take place soon involving the whole community as part of reviving old traditions on the Island.

To this end, a Working Group has been formed by local resident, Susan Knipe, who wants to try and bring back many old Island traditions, with an Agriculture Show Day being one of them. The group leading on the Agriculture Show Day comprises of district reps Wanda Isaac (Sandy Bay), Kurt Thomas (Levelwood), Marcia Benjamin (Alarm Forest), Diana Williams (Blue Hill), Elizabeth Clingham (Longwood) and Tracey Williams (St Paul's), alongside Giselle Richards as part of the Arts & Crafts Association and Dr Corinda Essex from the Chamber of Commerce, representing farmers.

District reps for Jamestown and Half Tree Hollow are still needed and anyone interested is encouraged to make contact with any one of the working group members.

As it stands, the Agriculture Show Day has been earmarked on the calendar for Saturday, 15 November. As this is a community-led effort, with no pot of money, input on the day and what will be offered will come from the community and through the input of the districts themselves. "It's coming along, but I'd like to stress that it is a community-led initiative, we are just the Working Group, we can't pull this off without extra help from the community," commented Susan.

It is hoped that there can be district competitions on the day through the categories of Arts and Crafts, like best seed-work, flax-work and paintings; Horticulture, such as best bananas, best cabbage etc; and Baking, including things like best decorated cake, best homemade jam etc. While the arts and crafts will be covered by Giselle, volunteers are still needed for the running of the competitions with regards to horticulture and baking. A livestock competition is also something the group would like to do but, again, they are looking for help for this competition to go ahead. Other ideas being explored are district novelty sports and a prize for the best decorated district stall showing off what local produce is on offer within each district.

In addition, certain equipment is required to setup the event, including gazebos, tables and chairs; with the group appealing to anyone willing to help with the lending of equipment. Man power will also be required to get everything in place ahead of the event; and to take down after.

Susan concluded by asking the community to get involved and to recognise that this is all about bringing the Island's people together and bringing back traditions that help build the culture of St Helena. "It's a community event to get people involved," she said. "We need more of it, and we need more of that St Helena culture coming out!"



SAMS RADIO 1 SCHEDULE

SAMS Radio 1

102.7 (Jamestown) • 90.5 (High Knoll) • 105.1 (Sunberry) • 105.3 (Blue Hill)
Streaming live via www.sams.sh/radio.html

FRI. Aug 08
- 7am -10am: Sunrise show with Luke Bennett
- 11am: American Connections (Repeat)
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (Repeat)

SAT. Aug 09
- 9am-12 Noon: Saturday Show with Sebastian Stent
- 1pm: Northward Sounds with Tony Leo
- 3-5pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie (Repeat)
- 6pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 8:30pm: Out Out (repeat)

SUN. Aug 10
- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Donna Crowie
- 1pm : Interview Hour
- 3-4:30pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7pm: Anglican Church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations

MON. Aug 11
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 3-5pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 5:30pm: Country Classics with Donna

TUE. Aug 12
- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 11am: Vibes with Anita
- 3:30pm: American Connections with Brian Clough
- 5:30-7pm: UK chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7:30pm: Classical Compilations with Anita

WED. Aug 13
- 7am-8:30am : Sunrise with Deon
- 11am: Northward Sounds with Tony Leo
- 1-3pm 1548 show with Cyril Gunnell
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett
- 7:30pm: Vibes With Anita

THU. Aug 14
- 7am - 10am: Sunrise with Liam & Luke
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna Crowie

Reach us on ***22727*** or at ***news@sams.sh***

sure

Bringing you the

BBC World Service

100.7 (Briars)
88.1 (High Knoll)
102.7 (Blue Hill)

Featured this Week



Rain or Shine. Donna has got you covered this Sunday Morning!

Donna will start of with a Gospel hour with the following 3 hours being a mystery. You never know what she has up her sleeve.

But from 11am - 12noon its all down to you the listener as Donna brings back Listeners Choice - you get to choose what you like to hear. So make sure give Donna a call to make your Sunday even special.

Local news and notices:
7am, 10am, noon, 5pm, 7pm, 10pm

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

Sentinel Sudoku Session

This week's difficulty is 'Master'

1	4							6
				2				
3			1		7	9		
				5		8		
2				9				
	3		8		2		4	
7			3		8	1		
		1					9	
			5					

Throwback Thursday



7th August 1843:

A new spire is erected on St. James' Church, replacing the dangerous structure taken down in 1835. (This one lasts until 1980.) The church, however, is closed until 1845 while other repairs are carried out.

(sainthelenaisland.info)

Who doesn't like a good Chinese? Well, if you do, then try put this Easy Lemon Chicken recipe; a good dish and a hearty meal.

Easy Lemon Chicken



Ingredients

- 2 Chicken Breasts (around 400g each)
- ½ tbsp Cornflour
- ½ tbsp White Pepper
- 950ml Vegetable Oil

For the batter:

- *2 eggs*
- *150g Plain Flour*
- *75g Cornflour*
- *1 tsp Garlic Salt or ½ tsp salt and garlic powder*
- *2 tsp Garlic powder*
- *½ tsp Bicarbonate of soda*
- *1 tsp Red Pepper powder*

For the Lemon Sauce:

- 2 lemons, juiced (around 100ml)
- 2 tbsp Sugar
- 1 ½ tsp Honey
- 1 tsp Cornflour

Method:

1. Slice the chicken breasts horizontally into two thin halves, then sprinkle over the cornflour, ½ tsp salt, the white pepper and ½ tbsp water, then leave to marinate for 20mins.
2. Meanwhile, make the batter. Whisk the eggs in a bowl, then set aside. In a second bowl, combine the plain flour, cornflour, garlic salt, garlic powder, bicarbonate of soda and red pepper powder, then tip half of the mixture into another bowl. Set one aside. Stir the whisked eggs into one bowl of the flour mixture with 3-5 tbsp cold water, adding 1 tbsp at a time. Mix well until it's the consistency of double cream.
3. Coat one chicken breast in the batter until evenly covered, then coat in the flour mixture. Rub in the flour using your hands to ensure it's completely coated. Repeat until all four halves of the chicken breasts have been coated.
4. Pour the vegetable oil into a medium saucepan (it should be no more than a third full) and heat over a medium-high heat until the oil reaches 160C or forms bubbles around a chopstick. Reduce the heat to medium and slowly lower the chicken breasts into the oil, in batches if your saucepan isn't big enough to do them all at once, then fry for 5 mins, turning over halfway, until pale golden.

LIFESTYLE & CULTURE

Around the World, and Back Again (Pt 2)

Madagascar? Iceland? No problem for Adventurer, Riaan Manser



Anita Robbertse, SAMS

In last week's The Sentinel, we joined Riaan Manser on his journey cycling around the African continent. In this week's article we will continue to share some of his astounding experiences as told by him during his recent visit to St Helena and to SAMS.

When Riaan returned after two years and two months of cycling around the continent of Africa, Vasti (who he married later) was waiting for him. Initially Riaan aimed at establishing some stability for him and Vasti and their relationship and did not pay much thought to what he would do next. There were a lot of people though who was asking him exactly that question, "What is the next thing you want to attempt?"

"I didn't want to know what was next," Riaan remembers. "I wanted inspiration and I wanted belief in my heart that I wanted to achieve something because I really wanted to do it, not because of someone waiting to do the next interview." He bought a piece of land with Vasti to build a house and a future together.

Six months later however, the inspiration that Riaan was looking for became a reality as he decided to kayak around the island of Madagascar. In spite of a number of attempts to do this having been made, no-one had yet succeeded at that time to complete this journey. When Riaan looked at the previous failed attempts, he said, "you could think I was arrogant, but I knew I had to try harder. I've got to do a little bit more and maybe I could do it."

On this journey, Riaan had the advantage of having a sponsor (or partner as he describes them) in Windhoek Lager, who would supply the funding for this trip. This time, Vasti would also be able to visit him twice during the anticipated six month expedition. With this backing in place, he set out on this historical journey in a single kayak to be the first human to row around Madagascar. Even with all the planning and support, the expedition took a year instead of six months. Although this journey was immensely challenging, Riaan at least had the peace of mind that there would be funds available to support him throughout this expedition and he would be able to see Vasti.

When he arrived in Madagascar, the plan was to circumnavigate the island in a clockwise direction, but on his taxi ride from the airport his taxi driver gave some very valuable advice. "My taxi driver taking me to my accommodation from the airport was a 40 year veteran of the airline," he recalled. "He said to me, no, the winds are going to kill you. You're going in the wrong direction!" Riaan then amended his plans and undertook the journey in an anti-clockwise direction as recommended during that taxi ride just before setting off.

During the time he was rowing around the island, a political coup played out in Madagascar. In addition to all the other challenges nature would throw at Riaan, he also had to deal with another war and the instability and uncertainty it would bring when landing his kayak every evening. Riaan did experience antagonism towards white South Africans there and was again mistaken as a mercenary, but nonetheless managed to successfully complete the Madagascar expedition "with the new government in place and with all of my limbs and fingers in place" he laughed.

"Madagascar really tested me physically," he reflected. "I mean, I nearly lost toes and I nearly lost fingers." His pinkie finger once got caught on a rope attached to his over 100kg kayak which broke before he could manage to separate it from the rope. He also split a tooth and had to



pull it himself when he landed on a beach at one time. Additionally, he had to deal with a larvae infestation under the skin in his toe caused by the Tumbu or the Mango Fly. The larvae of these flies penetrate the skin and then develop there, causing painful boil-like lesions. Usually this condition has to be treated by surgically removing the larvae, but Riaan was fortunate enough that a local waitress at a coffee shop noticed his pain and discomfort. He recalled this fortuitous meeting. "I was



battling. My foot was sore. She jumped over a little fence, still wearing her waitress apron and clothes and waded into the ankle deep water as I was getting into my kayak. She asked me for my pen knife and she lanced the toe for me. She just pulled out the worm

with its larvae that would have just carried on eating the flesh of my toe."

After many more experiences, challenges and obstacles, Riaan



completed his journey successfully, being the first person to circumnavigate Madagascar. "I came back alive, wrote another book, and I understood that this is my career," he stated. "Vasti and I both had careers that were now working for us and we were able to pay the bills."

Riaan said, "and then I went on another journey, but this time I was involving Vasti more and more with the decision-making and planning process." Riaan also affirmed that once he had made a decision to attempt something and had committed, he wouldn't go back on his decision. Usually this is a split-second decision for him. "Vasti helped me this time to get to that 20 second decision," he laughed. This decision kicked off the planning to head off to Iceland for his next expedition.

He initially thought to circumnavigate Greenland, but flying over Iceland on the way back of their recognisance trip, he looked out the window at the mesmerizing coastline of Iceland and told Vasti, "it's not going to be Greenland." He recalled how "that 20 second decision shocked her, because we had spent a few hundred thousand rand to get to the point we were at to plan the Greenland expedition." The next day he met with Dan Skinstad (with whom he was planning to undertake this expedition) to break the news to him that the plan was now to brave the freezing waters to circumnavigate Iceland in their two-man kayak. "I asked Dan over a coffee whether he would like to join me and he jumped at the opportunity. I don't think he knew what he was saying yes to, but the decision was made," recounted Riaan.

"It was tough!" Riaan recalls, but a lot more challenges arose due to the difference in expectations between him and Dan. Riaan said when you go on a journey like this you have to "understand what you're in for and you have to be willing to die." This is the level of commitment required to successfully complete a journey like this. Looking back, Riaan said "on Iceland, I was willing to die, but I soon realised after a month that I was willing to die to save somebody else, but that person was not showing the same level of commitment." This made for a very challenging journey with not all parties being on the same page, complicating communication as well. When the reality of the journey and its hardships sets in, things look different than when you are planning an expedition sitting in a coffee shop. Riaan shared his philosophy of what he expects from a partner. "I expect commitment," he said. "Commitment for me means you might have a lot of excuses, but you don't use them. You put in everything." In retrospect, Riaan says he could've communicated better with Dan before the start of the journey to prepare him for what to expect and



what the hierarchy would be during the expedition, but this lack of clear communication did end up affecting the journey, placing more strain on an already extremely difficult and challenging journey. As if there were not enough challenges, they set out in the winter during the worst winter Iceland had experienced in 63 years!

Completing this journey truly was an achievement as Riaan recalls. "It was a beautiful, beautiful moment arriving on the beach and seeing all the journalists that did not give us a second's credit,"



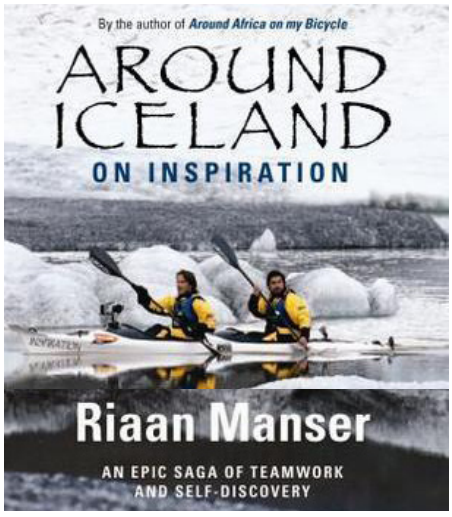
he said. "They did not want to believe that we'd make that record. And Dan is a handicapped guy, he has cerebral palsy. He was so inspirational! I was proud of him and I was proud of myself. I really went through hell in Iceland because of many emotional things, but I was proud of Dan."

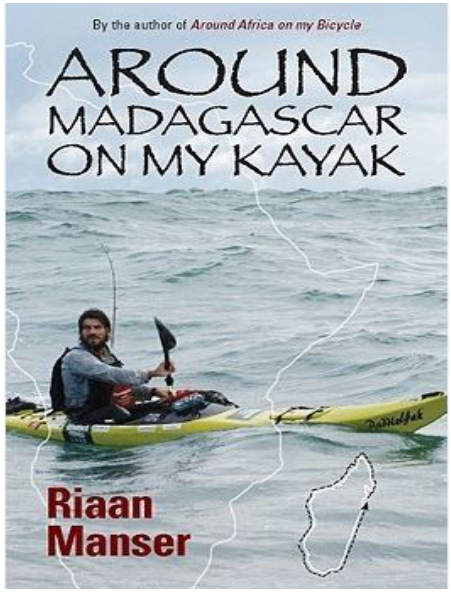
Vasti was once again waiting for Riaan as he returned from this



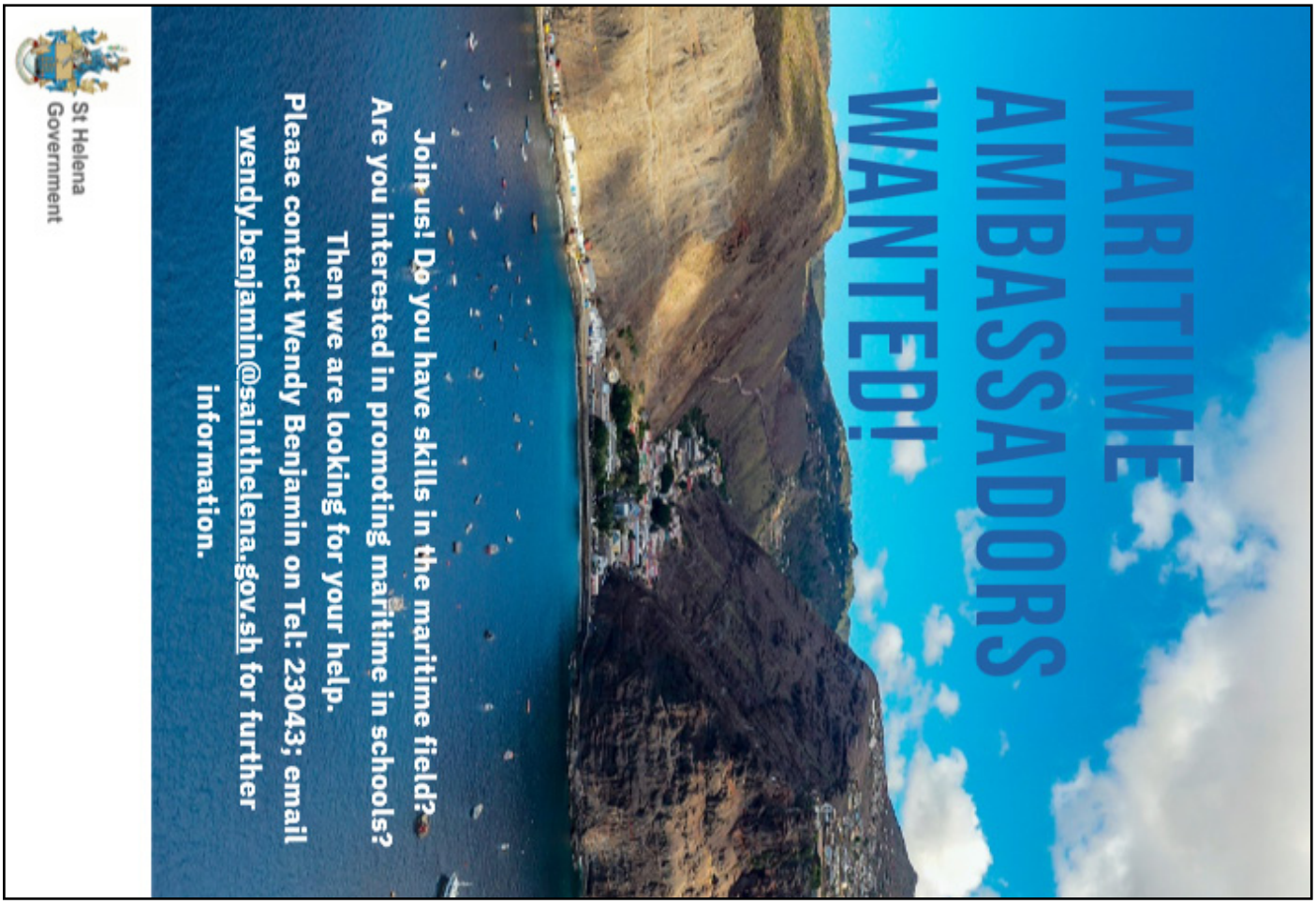
astonishing expedition to stand by his side, but his next adventure would take on a very different dimension. Read in next week's The Sentinel how Riaan continued to amaze and astound the world with what he attempted next in his career as an adventurer.







LIFESTYLE & CULTURE



St Helena Government

INVITATION TO TENDER

RELOCATION OF RECEPTION AREA AT ST HELENA SECONDARY SCHOOL

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

CS-1956-SHG–Relocation of Reception Area at St Helena Secondary School

A site visit to view the works will take place on Tuesday, 12 August 2025 at 16:00, meeting at the main entrance to the school.

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.

Copies of the tender documentand further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown on telephone no: 25932 or via email throughtiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on theTop Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Wednesday, 20August2025, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG
31 July 2025

Vacancy

Grocery Sales Assistant

Since 1790

Salary for the post will be £9,804 per annum (£817 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within The Star for a Grocery Sales Assistant.

As the Grocery Sales Assistant you will assist with the day-to-day running of The Star, including in the Food to Go area, and ensure a high standard of customer service

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess knowledge and skills of food safety & hygiene
- Be customer focused and target driven
- Possess experience of working in a customer facing environment and have excellent customer service skills
- Be competent in Maths, English and IT
- Possess experience in Cash Handling
- Be self-motivated and able to work well as part of a team
- Be able to undertake physically demanding and manual handling duties
- Have the ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment
- Be able to perform general cleaning duties
- Be available to work weekends

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

Charlotte Williams, Grocery Manager (The Star & Butchery) via 22683 charlotte.williams@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation &Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **21 August 2025.**

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

- Pension Contributions
- Staff Discounts

VACANCY

Connect SAINT HELENA LTD

ELECTRICAL LINES WORKER

Connect Saint Helena Ltd has a vacancy within the Electrical Distribution Team for a Lines Worker to carry out work on the 11kV High Voltage and 400 Volt Low Voltage Electricity Distribution Network.

The duties of the position include: Infrastructure refurbishment and maintenance of transformers, power lines, pole mounted equipment and switchgear; performing data acquisition, logging and recording activities as required; liaising with consumers for access to properties for domestic and commercial installations.

EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES

- Electrical Power Engineering qualifications
- Certified in Electrical Installations or Technicians Certification
- Physically fit, reliable and has the ability to climb poles to work at heights.
- Hydraulic lifting platform operation certification
- Driving Licence A & C
- Have 2 years' experience working on 11,000-volt networks.

BENEFITS

- A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- 15% pension contributions of the base salary and 25 days annual leave.

For further information contact Jayamangala Wijesuriya on +290 22255 or email Jayamangala.Wijesuriya@connect.co.sh. Completed application forms can be handed into the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: Annalisa.Young@connect.co.sh by **9:00am on Friday, 22 August 2025.** To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.

www.connect.co.sh/vacancies.html | connectsainthelenaltd | https://www.linkedin.com/company/connect-saint-helena-ltd/

NOTICE BOARD

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 10th August 2025– 19th Sunday of the Year		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Martin
11.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Andrew
5.00 p.m.	Choral Evensong	Cathedral
	Tuesday 12th August	
7.00 p.m.	**Praise and Worship**	**St Peter**
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 10th August 2025 – 19th Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Thursday 14th August	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
	Friday 15th Auugust	
7.00 p.m.	**Patronal Festival**	**St Mary**
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 10th August 2025 – 19th Sunday of the Year		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 12th August	
7.00 p.m.	70x7 Forgiveness	St Mark

Harford Community Centre ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Harford Community Centre will be holding their AGM on the 13th August 2025 at 7:30pm

Agenda

1. Chairperson's welcome/Report
2. Confirmation of minutes at our last AGM meeting
3. Treasurer's report
4. Election of new committee

"Your support is greatly appreciated if you wish for the community Centre to continue"

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MISAINT PENSION PLAN

The 2024 Annual Statements have now been received and any member who has not yet received their copy are asked to please contact Barbara Harris, Solomons Pensions Administrator on telephone number 22380 or email pensionadmin@solomons.co.sh to arrange collection of their statement.

Statements will only be printed upon request; therefore it is important to contact Barbara to advise if you would like to receive your statement by email or printed format.



Church Notices

We warmly invite you to join us for:

Prayer Meeting

Saturday 8th August 2025 at 8:30am

@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

~

Praise and Worship Service

Sunday 9th August 2025 at 11am

@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

~

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 11th August 2025, Jamestown at 7:00 pm
(Contact: Catherine on 64352 for details)
Wednesday 12th August 2025
The Rock Christian Fellowship, Longwood Avenue at 7.00pm
(Contact: Priscilla 51919 for details)
Half Tree Hollow, (Contact: Mercy 61707 for details

Christian Gift/bookshop & DVD rental

The Christian gift/bookshop & DVD rental
(as well as second-hand goods shop) is available.
For further information contact Priscilla: 51919.

NOTICE BOARD

Thank You

The family of the late Cedric Duncan of Sandy Bay, would like to thank the Doctors and Nurses for their care and attention, which was given to him during his short stay in hospital.

We would also like to take this opportunity to express our since gratitude to Nick Williams and Vincent March of the Baptist Church for conducting the funeral service and to Gay Marr for playing the organ at the church and Vilma March for providing the music at the grave side and all those who donated flowers, sent cards and messages of condolences and assist with the funeral arrangements.

He will sadly be missed but never forgotten.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services
10th August
Sandy Bay Chapel 08.45 am
Head O'Wain Chapel 10.45 am
Jamestown Chapel 6.00 pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday 12th August
Baptist School Hall 7.00 pm
Thursday 14th August
Sandy Bay Chapel 5.30 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS
Ladies Meeting
Wednesday 20th August
Baptist School Hall/J Town 10.30 am

Outreach Service
Sunday 17th August
Kingshurst Community Centre 3.00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

AUGUST OPENING HOURS

Main Branch*

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

Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 - 14:30

Remote Banking

HTH Supermarket	Tuesday, 26 August	09:30 – 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Wednesday, 27 August	09:30 – 14:00

**The Business Banking Station is open Monday to Friday, 09:30 - 13:30.*

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



EARLY CLOSURE AT MAIN BRANCH

WEDNESDAY, 13TH AUGUST 2025

Bank of St Helena Ltd would like to advise customers the Main Branch will close from **12:30pm on Wednesday, 13 August** to facilitate staff training and development. Normal opening hours will resume on **Thursday, 14 August**.

The Bank apologises 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

NOTICE BOARD

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Join us!

We are recruiting…

St Helena Government

Higher Level Teaching Assistant (SPPS)

(£11,217 - £11,770 per annum) - fixed term until Aug 2026

A Higher Level Teaching Assistant takes on the responsibility of planning, preparing and teaching 25% of the schools' teaching time table including any specific support groups and lesson cover in the absence of the Class Teacher. The HLTA will also assist with supervising the children in the playground to ensure pupils feel safe and secured in the school environment. You will be required to have a good level of written and verbal communication skills to be able to interact with all students, colleagues and parents.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: **Patricia Williams on Tel No. 24737 or Email: patricia.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **15 August 2025**
Shortlisting date: **20 August 2025**
Interview date: **28 August 2025**

Postal Officer

(£10,088 per annum)

Are you a highly motivated individual with good teamwork and interpersonal skills? If so, the Post & Customer Services Centre has an opportunity for you to join their team. Duties of the post include checking and receiving cash payments, assisting with the sorting and issuing of international mail and preparing all relevant documentation correctly for the receipt and despatch of all post.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Karen Yon on Tel No. 22629 or Email: Karen.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: **15 August 2025**
Shortlisting date: **20 August 2025**
Interview date: **28 August 2025**

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.

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you.

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.

NOTICE BOARD

Join us!

We are recruiting...

St Helena Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Immigration/Customs Officer (18 years +) (Permanent)
(£11,604 per annum)

We are looking to fill these important roles in our busy immigration/customs team, to undertake the duties and responsibilities to reduce threats to the border integrity of St Helena. This is a critical role which requires experience of front line/customer facing responsibilities, an inquisitive mind-set and the ability to work well as part of a team.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: **Delmarie Williams on Tel no. 22287 or Emerald Newman-Yon on 22236 or email: Delmarie.Williams@sainthelena.gov.sh or emerald.newman-yon@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: 15 August 2025
Shortlisting date: 20 August 2025
Interview date: 29 August 2025

IDVA/SDVA/CIDVA Domestic Abuse Service Lead
(£13,569 per annum)
For local interest only

The Health & Social Care Portfolio are seeking to recruit a Domestic Abuse Service Lead, to manage and facilitate the provision of outreach advocacy and support to survivors of domestic abuse, who reside within the local community. The post-holder will also be responsible for the delivery of invention, support, advice, training and interface between all key partner agencies.

Please contact us for more information and discussion.

Enquiries: **Amy Martin on Tel no. 23312 or Email: amy.martin@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date: 22 August 2025
Shortlisting date: 27 August 2025
Interview date: 10 September 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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

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

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NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

THE ROLE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A General Election will be held on Wednesday, 3 September 2025if more than 12 valid nominations are received by no later than 12 noon on Nomination Day, Wednesday, 20 August 2025. This year's Election will be the second under the ministerial system of Government. Leading up to the General Election we will provide information articles on how a Ministerial Government works. This week's focus is on the role of Legislative Council.

Who forms the Legislative Council?

Legislative Council is comprised of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, the 12 Elected Members and the Attorney General. The Attorney General is an ex-officio and non-voting Member**.**

What is the role of Legislative Council?

The Legislative Council together with His Majesty comprise the Legislature of St Helena.

In accordance with the Constitution of St Helena the Legislature may make laws for the peace, order and good governance of St Helena.At meetings of Legislative Council, the Council considers Bills for Ordinances for approval. If approved they are then forwarded to the Governor for assent on behalf of His Majesty.

Legislative Council also considers and votes on motions presented to them by Members. It further receives petitions presented by Members and papers that under law have to be laid before Council.At meetings of Legislative Council, Members are able to ask questions to members of Government, i.e. the Chief Minister and Ministers.

Meetings of Legislative Council end with an adjournment debate during which all Members are able to speak generally on the public affairs of St Helena for a fixed time. The Chief Minister responds to points made by Members at the end of adjournment debates**.**

What are the rules of Legislative Council?

Legislative Council has its own Standing Orders. These are made according to the Constitution which allows the Council to make Standing Orders for the 'orderly conduct of its proceedings and the dispatch of business'. The current Standing Orders, which came into effect in December 2022, cover matters including: the recording of proceedings, the order of business, the procedure for Bills, rules of debate and provisions on behaviour. Legislative Council can amend its Standing Orders as and when they wish to following discussion amongst themselves.

Members of Legislative Council are also subject to a Code of Conduct that is approved by them pursuant to the Constitution. The Code of Conduct details the behaviour expected of Members and regulates their relationship with Officers of the St Helena Public Service.

What is the role of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker?

The Speaker presides in meetings of Legislative Council. The Speaker is responsible for the observance of the rules of order in the Council and their decision on any point of order is final. The Speaker also receives complaints made against Members under the Code of Conduct. The Speaker is non-voting. In the absence of the Speaker the Deputy Speaker performs the role.

Both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are voted for by Elected Members from eligible members of the public who have put themselves forward, usually following a General Election. Each candidate needs to be proposed and seconded by different Elected Members of Council. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker cannot be Elected Members of Legislative Council.

What is the responsibility of the Councillors?

All Councillors including Ministers, have been elected by the public to be Members of Legislative Council. As such all Members are expected to work together for the overall benefit of the Island.

While working with Ministers for the good of St Helena, Councillors also have a remit to scrutinise the performance and decision making of the Ministers and ensure the effective use of public funds. This will include doing so at meetings of Legislative Council and also in select (scrutiny) committees established by Order.

Alongside the scrutiny committees, three of the Councillors (who are not Ministers) also sit on the Public Accounts Committee.

Councillors who are not Ministers are allocated geographical districts on St Helena for which it is expected they become the first point of contact for the public in those areas,

Councillors who are not Ministers are expected also to table questions to the Chief Minister and Ministers at regular Ministers' Question Time sessions.

How does post-election representational districts work?

Each Councillor who is not part of the Ministerial teamis allocated a district to represent. They are the first point of contact for members of public in those areas,they may hold surgeries in those areas and ask questions on behalf of the district in Legislative Council**.**

How areCouncillors allocated districts?

One of the first tasks of the new Legislative Council will be to decide amongst themselves how to allocate the eight representational districts to the seven Councillors who are not Ministers. The eight boundaries of the post-election representational districts are identical to the electoral districts used on Polling Day. Of the seven Councillors, one will have responsibility for two representational districts.

How often does Legislative Council meet?

Meetings of the Legislative Council shall be held at such places and begin at such times as the Speaker, acting in accordance with the advice of the Chief Minister, shall appoint.

The Constitution prescribes that there shall be at least one meeting of the Legislative Council in each quarter of each calendar year but may meet more frequently if necessary.

All members of Legislative Council can meet privately to have briefings or discussions on matters of current concern but these take place outside of the Legislative Council structure.

Do all Members attend meetings of Legislative Council?

For business to be transacted at a meeting of Legislative Council there must be a quorum of seven of the 12 Elected Members in attendance.

However, given the importance of meetings of Legislative Council it is expected that all Members would attend meetings unless there were exceptional circumstances not to do so.

How do Councillors who are not Ministers work with Public Service Officials?

Councillors who are not part of the Ministerial teamdo not directly deal with public officials. They should direct their queries and views on public services and policies to the relevant Minister. The Minister would then respond to the Councillor, using their public officials for advice and information.

Certain senior public officials can also be called periodically to answer questions on the implementation of public policies and the delivery of public services at meetings of the two Select Committees and the Public Accounts Committee.

Members of Legislative Council are supported by the Clerkof Councils and two Legislative Council Office Assistants**.**

In our next issue we will look at the role of Ministers and Portfolio Directorates. These Information Releases are also available online at: https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/elections/.

NOTICE BOARD

Hello, my name is Rebecca Cairns-Wicks and I'd like to announce my intention to stand for election to the St Helena Legislative Council in the 2025 General Election. I invite you to read my manifesto.



Who am I?

I have lived on St Helena since the 1990's. I am married with two grown-up children and many of you mayknow me through my roles as Conservation Officer and Environmental Coordinator and my work to create the Millenium Forest. I was also instrumental in starting up the National Trust which has gone on to be theleadingnon-governmental body for the preserving our island's heritage.

As a family we run a beef herd and over the past 25 years we've invested significantly to restore land by removing invasive weeds and improving our livestock bloodline to increase productivity for our farm and the Island as a whole.

Living here has taught me that everything is connected: people, families, work and nature. We rely on each other and if we want a better future, we must work together to build it.

Why do I want to stand for Council?

St Helena is at a turning point. Our population is getting smaller and older and without enough young people entering the workplace our economy is struggling. People are feeling the pressure from high costs for utilities, communications, food and housing, especially young families and the elderly.

Progress is too slow and many people feel let down by governance systems that don't reflect their needs or realities.

We are simply not doing enough to support and value our people, especiallythe young and the elderly, and those working hard to make a better life.I want to change that, putting people first and build a fairer, stronger St Helena that works for everyone, young and old.Every person matters. We need to restore a sense of fairness and hope by investing in our young people, supporting our elders, and giving everyone a real chance to succeed.

Why vote for me?

I listen, act with purpose, and lead by example. I've spent my life working in government, civil society and the private sector, bringing people together, turning ideas into action and delivering lasting results.

Since the launch of the St Helena Research Institute in 2019, I've worked closely with Government departments, the National Trust, and international researchers. Together, we've built strong partnerships that supports research, learning, and decision-making. Good decisions are informed by good data and the people that they affect.

I'm passionate about education and youth development. I want every young person to have the opportunity to learn, grow and shape their future on the island.The reorganisation of the schools, establishment of educational standards and support for teachers is a vitally important and exciting development we can all get behind to support.

With my broad experience and deep commitment to this Island, I want to help improve how decisions are made and ensure they reflect the needs of our whole community.

What I Stand For

1. Tackling the High Cost of Living, improving quality of life

Making life more affordable is a top priority for me. I want to help find solutions tolower the cost of living so that everyone can live with dignity and have hope andconfidence for the future. Looking across at duties on imports; costs of utilities to taxes, and alongside this the services; standards and charges.
I will work to better understand the needs of older people; the challenges facing community care and work to support and improve services.

I believe that we are feeling the effects of Government divestment of assets without proper regulation. We need fair rules, better oversight and investment in infrastructure in the right places but we should also investigate whether other models for managing national utilities could serve the community better.

Invasive species of plants and animals have a massive and growing impact on all of us;affecting health, agriculture and conservation yet we have no coordinated approach to manage the growing economic impact. We need to understand how to change and how a changing climate is impacting farming and our native species. I will support education, innovation, and development in agriculture to improve food security and protect biodiversity.

2. Supporting Young Families, Strengthening Education and Securing our Future

To protect the island's future, we must give young people and families real reasons to stay, and for those overseas to want to return home. We need a strong, skilled workforce to carry us forward.
I will work to champion progress in education at all levels. Including the primary and secondary school changes and

broader access to academic and technical training. I believe we must equip our young people with the skills, qualifications and confidence they need to succeed on St Helena. We also need to support their early careers and ensure strong professional development. I will advocate for better succession planning across Government, ensuring that temporary technical officers pass on their skills and knowledge, leaving local people in post equipped to do the job and building long-term resilience.

Education alone is not enough to encourage young people to build their lives here, we also need to tackle some of the other practical barriers they face. I will work to:

- Make land more affordable for first-time buyers, and fair loans accessible;
- Improve support for families, including withchildcare;

By investing in education, career development, housing, and a vibrant community life, we can inspire and empower the next generation of nurses, teachers, electricians, merchant seamen,entrepreneurs and leaders to choose St Helena as their home.

3. Strengthening Governance and Transparency

With limited resources and significant UK financial aid, we must use every poundwisely andshow that to the public. Trust in government depends on transparency, fairness and involving people in the decisions that affect them.
I want people to feel that their voice matters; that they are being asked their viewsearly enough to shape the decisions. Good governance means listening, explaining and making sure laws or policies are done with people, not to them. Laws and regulations must be necessary, fair and easy to understand.Regulation should be well justified and support positive behaviour change, not create barriers or resentment.

4. Our Economy - Diversifying and Revitalising

St Helena needs a more diverse and resilient economy. One where people see a future and where their ideas and efforts can succeed.
The island has a very narrow economic base: the public sector is the largest employer, and there is little local industry or export revenue. Almost everything is imported, and the tax base is tiny. Our economy is fragile, and is overly exposed to external shocks.

The airport and weekly flights were intended to kick-start a tourism industry by making St Helena more accessible. Whilst tourism remains important,it is only a part of the answer, especially given limited flight capacity. We need to grow other sectors and make space for innovation and enterprise.

Connectivity is our lifeline to the outside world. The new subsea fibre-optic cable, promised improvements in broadband speed, data limits, and cost. This hasn't yet been delivered in full and as expected. The island-wide network needs upgrading to capitalise on the increased broadband width and internet packages need to be affordable for homes and businesses. Better digital connectivity will enable improved remote education, telemedicine, e-commerce and also open up digital job opportunities.

The land development control plan is central to the economy, guiding how land can be developed, and it is out of date. We need a new, fit for purpose community driven plan that reflects the unique characteristics, needs and opportunities for each district. The plan must be developed with local voices giving people the chance to shape how their area grows.

I want to help and support the potential of our private sector by:

- Identifying and removing barriers to business growth
- Improving access to finance for start-ups and small businesses
- Supporting young entrepreneurs and innovation
- Strengthening the non-government and charitable sector, which delivers huge social and economic value.

5. Resilience in a Changing World

I would like to strengthen the growing relationships of collaboration, knowledge exchange and partnerships across the UK Overseas Territories,and beyond.
As islanders we bring unique insights. By connecting with others facing similar challenges, we can learn faster, share solutions, strengthen business and research ties and open up new opportunities to our island, as being demonstrated by Public Health for example through COVID and in mental health care.

Small islands can be global leaders in resilience, sustainability, and community-driven innovation. We must continue to learn from, and proudly contribute to, this wider network.

In Conclusion

If you are considering electing me I will:
Fight and work for you with honesty and integrity;

- Work together with fellow councillors to get the best outcomes;
- Be accessible, transparent, and fair;
- Create space for informed, respectful public conversation;
- Ensure that debate and decision taking is informed by sound knowledge and evidence-based.

St Helena is rich in history, community, talent and exceptional biodiversity. With cooperation, a collaborative understanding, and vision we can build a future that works for everyone.

If you believe in a more inclusive, capable, and forward-looking St Helena, I kindly ask you to VOTE for me, Rebecca Cairns-Wicks. rebecca@helanta.co.sh; tel 24419 or mobile 51322

NOTICE BOARD

A Message from Mark Brooks – General Election Candidate for St Helena

I am pleased to announce that I will be once again standing as a candidate in the upcoming general election, committing and dedicating the next four years working to make St Helena a better place for all.

If I am honoured with your support and re-elected, I pledge to continue working on the big-ticket initiatives I helped to start during my previous term. While not all were completed in the past four years, significant progress was made — and I would like to be part of the team that sees them through to completion for you, the people of St Helena.
During my last tenure a great deal of time was taken up by litigation claims from the failure of SHG to deliver the correct service and conditions, if re-elected I will continue to mitigate these risks on public finance and more importantly the harm caused to our community because of these historical failures, by ensuring as best as possible that SHG provides the right services and conditions for those that need to use them.

Affordable Land and Housing

A new Property Purchase and Disposal Policy has been developed and approved — shaped by public feedback — making it cheaper for first-time buyers to purchase government-owned land.

If re-elected, I will continue to monitor and review this policy to ensure it is working as intended, and will propose improvements if needed so that the benefits reach as many people as possible.

Additionally, a new Stamp Duty Order has been approved, exempting first-time buyers from paying duty — making the path to home ownership easier for many.

If re-elected, I will continue working to make buying or building a home on St Helena simpler through improved planning processes and affordability.

Driving St Helena's Digital Future

Continuing St Helena's digital transformation must remain a top priority. We should actively support and champion the opening of the island to additional satellite ground stations and companies looking to utilize the capacity of our subsea cable.

The development of a modern, inclusive telecommunications infrastructure is essential — not just for economic growth, but for education, healthcare, innovation, and improved quality of life for all.

We live in a digital era, and our services must evolve to meet the demands of today while laying the foundation for the opportunities of tomorrow. If re-elected, I will continue to push the forward-looking digital strategy that unlocks the full potential of St Helena's connectivity for the benefit of every resident and business.

Reliable Sea and Air Links

The Island now benefits from a more reliable and frequent sea freight service, which is no longer, tied to fuel or currency fluctuations — offering greater certainty to all of us who rely on it.

If re-elected, I will work to further reduce freight costs, potentially by exploring the use of passing ships and reducing reliance on a dedicated vessel, which often costs more.

Air services have also improved, with extended flights during peak seasons offering more flexibility for travellers.

If re-elected, I will continue to explore additional airlines and regional hubs that can improve connectivity to and from St Helena as we continue to grow our tourism products.

Lower Fuel Prices and Energy Reforms

Work has begun on completing the new Bulk Fuel Installation (BFI) over the next three years, and we will also seek to expand our fuel storage capacity in the short-term. With the ability to store fuel for up to a year or so we can reduce the number of deliveries and bring down costs.

If re-elected, I will push for fuel price reductions by optimizing our storage and delivery systems — with real savings passed on to consumers.

We've also made real progress in renewable energy, securing funding to kick-start the transition.

If re-elected, I will ensure that investment in renewables not only helps the environment but also leads to lower electricity costs for everyone.

Economic Innovation

We are modernizing St Helena's economy, starting with the development of a modern Companies Register, aimed at creating new revenue streams and opportunities for the Island.

If re-elected, I will drive the launch of the new register by the end of this financial year and continue seeking out innovative economic opportunities.

One promising idea is the development of a biodiversity credit market, capitalizing on St Helena's exceptional blue and green credentials. By selling biodiversity credits on international platforms, we can continue our conservation work while creating new jobs and sustainable incomes.

Strengthening St Helena's Future Through a Strategic UK Partnership

The UK Government, through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), plays a crucial role in shaping St Helena's future. If I am re-elected, I will continue to do all I can to advocate for a clear and transparent long-term vision from the UK for its Overseas Territories — particularly St Helena.

We cannot continue to operate in uncertainty. St Helena deserves to know what the UK Government's long-term plan is for our island and its people. Are we to remain perpetually dependent on UK aid, or is there a realistic, supported path toward greater economic self-sufficiency and resilience?

The UK Government must develop and commit to a strategic framework that supports St Helena in becoming more self-reliant — not by cutting support, but by investing smartly in growth sectors, ensuring we have the right people in the right roles, and by helping us to unlock our full potential.

Posting experienced personnel to St Helena who can bring meaningful skills and strategic guidance, particularly in the areas of economic development, investment attraction, and infrastructure planning.

Reconsidering the appointment of Governors (ultimately, the head of the public service) with primarily military backgrounds. While discipline and leadership are valued qualities, the challenges St Helena faces are primarily economic, not security-related.

Instead, Governors should be appointed based on their experience in public policy, economic development, trade, or governance, with a clear published mandate to work collaboratively with SHG officials and elected Ministers to deliver tangible improvements in prosperity, accountability, and self-determination.

The people of St Helena are resourceful, capable, and committed to their home. But to move forward, we need a partnership with the UK that recognizes our unique challenges — including isolation, high transport costs, limited private sector opportunities, and a constrained labour market — and helps us to turn those challenges into strengths.

For example:

With UK support, we can unlock green and blue economy opportunities — from biodiversity credits and eco-tourism to renewable energy exports through carbon credits and sustainable fisheries.
We can attract responsible foreign investment by modernizing our legal, business, and digital infrastructure and not be afraid to embrace modern technology.
We can create education and training opportunities for our young people that equip them to return home and build the island's future while maintaining a good and safe quality of family life.
Ultimately, our goal must be to reduce reliance on the UK taxpayer in a responsible and realistic way — not by austerity, but by growing our own capacity and shaping a future that is built on St Helena's strengths, not its dependencies.

If re-elected, I will continue to be a strong voice on these matters — pressing for a fair, strategic, and collaborative relationship with the UK Government that respects St Helena's unique identity, and helps our community to prosper on our own terms.

St Helena is at a turning point. The foundations have been laid — now it's time to build. With your support, I will continue to champion policies that deliver affordability, sustainability, and opportunity for every resident.

Let's keep the momentum going. Let's build the future together.

Vote Mark Brooks in the upcoming General Election.

VACANCY

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Bank Teller

Commencing at £8,976 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. 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 the Teller Services Manager on + (290) 22390 or email tellerservicesmanager@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 the Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 08 August 2025.

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

Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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

info@sainthelenabank.com
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+290 22390
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Bank of St Helena Ltd

NOTICE BOARD

ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

VACANCY NOTICE

Finance Assistant

Total package value up to £26,070.00

(comprising salary of £14,840.00 per annum plus food and utilities allowances, free housing and other benefits)

About the role

We're looking for a Finance Assistant to support the Finance Team in delivering a high-quality income tax and customs function. This is a varied and rewarding role that supports both the public and internal Government teams, with responsibilities spanning tax administration, customer service, customs operations, and general finance support.

What you'll do

As Finance Assistant, you'll focus on administering income tax processes, including issuing forms, collecting PAYE contributions, maintaining registers, and responding to queries. You'll ensure the timely collection and reconciliation of taxes from employers, small businesses, contractors, and visitors. You'll also support customs operations by assisting with baggage checks and arrivals at sea and air ports. Additionally, you'll provide flexible support across the Finance Office and may assist in areas such as the Post Office, Travel Office, or Stores during busy periods or staff absence.

What you'll bring

You'll have good IT skills, especially in Microsoft Excel, Outlook, and Word, and ideally some knowledge of accounting software such as Sage. You're a confident communicator who can interact politely and professionally with the public, suppliers, and colleagues across Government. You'll be someone who works well both independently and as part of a team, with a methodical approach to handling sensitive information, cash, and data. Experience in income tax or customs duties would be a distinct advantage, but full training will be provided to the right candidate.

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of £14,840 per annum (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts a single status contract and these benefits:

- Rent free furnished accommodation worth up to £2,400 pa (taxable benefit)
- A single status food allowance of £3,840 pa (taxable benefit)
- An electricity allowance worth £3,140 per year
- A single status water allowance worth £1,850 pa
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including assistance with shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free annual travel insurance

This appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory Employment References.
- Basic Criminal Records Check.
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance.

Closing date: 02 September 2025
Interviews: week commencing 08 September 2025
Start date: as soon as possible

For more information, a full job description, and to apply visit: [link to be inserted]
If you have any queries about the role, please email recruitment@ascension.gov.ac

*** Internal applications from AIG employees currently on accompanied status contracts will be considered***

CELEBRATING WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY WEEK ON ST HELENA!

PHOTO COMPETITION | 12-19 AUGUST 2025

Winners announced 26th August 2025







SHARE YOUR VISION. SNAP. SUBMIT. WIN!

PHOTO CATEGORIES:

- Marine
- Nature
- History & Heritage
- Island Culture
- Hiking
- Adventure

GRAND PRIZE

1st Place	1 - £150
2nd Place	2 - £75
3rd Place	3 - £50

CATEGORY PRIZES

1st Place	1 - £75
2nd Place	2 - £50
3rd Place	3 - £25

Entries close: Monday 19th August (World Photography Day)
Winners Announced: Monday 26th August
Open to all Residents & Visitors. Submit on FB or Insta by tagging **@st.helena.tourism, #WorldPhotographyDay** and **#Category**
Or by emailing to **visit@sainthelena.gov.sh**

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St Helena Island
A breath of fresh air

NOTICE BOARD

Greetings from the Jamestown Rifle Club



Pat Henry, Contributed

Time waits for no one; another month has slipped into the past but at times some of us may not notice how swiftly time travels. This month we planned our travel time to our venues or destinations, therefore time is measured. Today our youth group knew it was time for their shooting activity, six of them were able to attend but others were restricted due to road closure as work progresses, however in time (hopefully the next few weeks) we are hoping to have access with our normal travel time putting us back on track.

Trying too hard at times can be devastating to our performance. Daniel D shot 89 & 92.1, Josie D 86, Pippa 86, Josie 87.1, new member Zarah shot 90.1 & 72, first time entry for Leo Wortley had a keen eye and shot 97.4 well done to all; these young people enjoyed their session. Our adult session had a turnout of eleven shooting the night away, despite other disruptions during our winter period shooting gives comfort and stress relief while developing your ability, providing excitement and making you feeling good about yourself. New entry, Jeff Spence, shot 90.1 & 92.1, Tara Wortley also gave it a go, another keen eye for the target she shot 97.4, Cherilee 90 & 81.1, Tinika training to fine her comfort always with adjustments, Elli who dreams about these moments with 100.8, Daniel 94.4, Rachael were back with us she shot 92.2 + 92.1, Kyle with consistency shot 98.1 & 98.6, Helena Rose feeling confident with 98.1 & 99.7, Mario Yon joined in for a shoot he shot 98.1, 99.2 & 98.6 and finally a new entry, Nina Bennett, was given a safety on handling and operating for shooting and having a go to see what it feels like. Nina showed fine confidence with solid interest finding her target and shot for her first time 85.2, well done Nina, let's hope further practicing will enhance your development.Thanks everyone, we look forward to meeting next week for another healthy shooting event. Until then, stay safe and well, may we all be blessed with richness in life.

Scout Jackpot Draw

The winners of the July Scout Jackpot were as follows:

1st Prize - £100 – Maureen Thompson
Ticket No. 109

2nd Prize - £50 – Gilly Stroud
Ticket No. 464

3rd Prize - £25 – Phyllis Thomas
Ticket No. 485

4th Prize - £25 – Di Roberts
Ticket No. 232

Remember to have any chance of winning, you must participate.

Jamestown Community Centre Skittles League

02nd July 2025	Strugglers	462	Beat	Stallions	449
Gents Highest Score	Jeremy Yon	61		Roland Crowie	58
Ladies Highest Score	Mavis O'Bey	56			
Highest Spare	Mavis O'Bey	11		Roland Crowie	13

07th July 2025	Guys & Dolls	461	Beat	Young Stars	453
Gents Highest Score	Johnny Carter	68		David Young	59
Ladies Highest Score	Merle Peters	57		Rebecca Young	58
Highest Spare	Johnny Carter	10 &17		David Young	12

09th July 2025	Extractors	496	Beat	Lickity Splits	422
Gents Highest Score	Graham Peters	64		Joey Thomas	55
Ladies Highest Score				Taylor Thomas	49
Highest Spare	Graham Peters	14		Joey Thomas	15

14th July 2025	Strugglers	450	Beat	Guys & Dolls	440
Gents Highest Score	David Thomas	69		Neil Joshua	64
Ladies Highest Score	Emerald Newman-Yon	51		Joan Yon	50
Highest Spare	David Thomas	15		Neil Joshua	15

16th July 2025	Young Stars	437	Beat	Stallions	419
Gents Highest Score	Ashton Benjamin	61		Callum Ellick	56
Ladies Highest Score	Danni Thomas	55		Jordon Yon	56
Highest Spare	David Young	10		Jordon Johnson	13

21st July 2025	Parttimers	499	Beat	Lickity Slicks	348
Gents Highest Score	David Reynolds	68		Marco Fowler	49
Ladies Highest Score	Stacey Williams	61		Terri Braaf	51
Highest Spare	David Reynolds	15		Marco Fowler	14

23rd July 2025	Extractors	458	Beat	Alley Cats	430
Gents Highest Score	Deon Thomas	59		Anthony Phillips	65
Ladies Highest Score	Asita O'Bey	49		Ann Coleman	47
Highest Spare	Leroy Young	14		Anthony Phillips	15

28th July 2025	Strugglers	456	Beat	Lickity Splits	397
Gents Highest Score	David Thomas	61		Joey Thomas	56
Ladies Highest Score	Mavis O'Bey	51		Terri Braff	57
Highest Spare	David Thomas	14			
	Mark Constantine	14			

30th July 2025	Alley Cats	425	Beat	Young Stars	422
Gents Highest Score	Cody Phillips	57		Jamie Peters	58
Ladies Highest Score	Shania Benjamin	53		Rebecca Young	48
Highest Spare	Cody Phillips	12			

SPORTS ARENA

Golf Report



SHGC, Contributed

On Friday, 1 August, the St Helena Golf Club was pleased to provide its facilities to a group of workers from SHG; Sophia Joshua, Tourism Officer, explained how "the Economic Development Portfolio chose the St Helena Golf Club for our away day activities at the beginning of this month."

The Club House proved to be an ideal winter choice even if a bit chilly around the ankles. We enjoyed a really well organised mix of indoor, forum based activities, lunch and a roundup of Texas Scramble on the golf course. "It was a team building day enjoyed by all and we would like to thank the Club and their staff for so warmly accommodating us on this occasion," they said.

For some team members it was their first taste of golfing and who knows, the Club might see some new competition soon. The SHGC would like to thank the Economic Development Portfolio for using the club for this event and we are happy to accommodate any further events in the future.

Sunday, 3 August, it was a privileged to have ideal weather worthy to master our skills at St Helena Golf Club participating in our 18 Hole Stableford competition. Sadly, four players cancelled on the day leaving us with only twelve members to compete in the event. The course fairways were preserved in striking condition, but testing our potting abilities on the greens was not easy to finish the hole, despite this! We all finished the game with high spirits and with much enjoyment. The final competition results recorded in 4th position with 33 points was Douglas Augustus, 3rd position was Patrick Johnson with 34 points, the prize winners, in 2nd was Mr Larry Legg with 35 points and the overall winner with 37 points was Mr Fred Thomas. Congratulations and thanks to everyone for taking part the day's competition. The next competition will be a Medalford held on Sunday, 10 August, grateful if as many players as possible will support this event. To enter the competition, a sign-up list is on the club noticeboard or you can call the club phone number 24421 and leave your name. Thank you and Happy Swinging!

bagging a hat-trick, and picking up Man of the Match honours while Scott O'Bey added a hat-trick of his own. Fugees' veteran's Alistair Buckley, Cristen Yon and Jason Williams also got in on the action with a goal each. Inter Galactic did have reason to celebrate however, after scoring their first goal of the season thanks to NaShawn McCoy, however unfortunately, this was offset by what looked to be a serious injury to their new man, Ajay Bennett; we wish him a speedy recovery.





Over to Sunday when Rovers continued to find their winning rhythm again, easing pass the challenge of the Wirebirds by six goals to two. Blaze Baldwin was on form with a hat-trick, while David Young was a surprise threat bagging himself a brace. Toure Osborne was also on target, finishing off a lobbed effort by Tyler Benjamin. Wirebirds were in the game when Sanjay Clingham and Shane Stroud scored a goal either side of the half, but Rovers eventually pulled away. Captain Rico Benjamin was named as the Man of the Match for his contributions as he eyes a big second round ahead for the reigning defending champions.

Finally, in the last fixture of the weekend, league leaders Bellboys impressed again in ruthless fashion, putting a halt to the form of La Verde, who were disappointed not to have their first choice keeper in action. Smelling blood in the water, Bellboys took advantage and ran riot with eleven unanswered goals. Man of the Match, Joey Thomas, played a starring role once again, with four goals to his name, while Tyler Brady and Scott Henry both bagged a brace. Goals from Weston Clingham, Zac Francis, and an own goal rounding off the scoring for Bellboys who remain undefeated.

There is just one more matchweek to go in the first round of league action and Bellboys continue to be the favourites heading into round two of three. There is however still a long way to go and there is sure to be plenty more twists and turns to come in this year's league season.





FOOTBALL RESULTS

Saturday 2 August 2025

Fugees 10
L Williams (3) S O'Bey (3) L Robbertse, C Yon, A Buckley, J Williams
MoM: Lars Williams
YPoM: Lukas Robbertse

Inter Galactic 1
N McCoy

Sunday 3 August 2025

Rovers 6
B Baldwin (3) D Young (2) T Osborne
MoM: Rico Benjamin

Wirebirds 2
S Clingham, S Stroud

Bellboys 11
J Thomas (4) T Brady (2) S Henry (2) W Clingham, Z Francis, OG
MoM: Joey Thomas

La Verde 0

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Saturday 9 August 2025

2pm **Wirebirds vs La Verde**

Sunday 10 August 2025

1.30pm **Fugees vs Bellboys**

3.30pm **Rovers vs Inter Galactic**

**Fixtures subject to weather conditions*

JUNIOR FOOTBALL RESULTS

Sunday 2 August 2025

New Horizons FC 3
A Herne-Peters, K Richards, Z Fick
PoM: Axel Herne-Peters

Dabbling Devils 1
Z Benjamin
PoM: Tommy Yon

Young Gunners 4
K Stroud (2), H Stead, OG
PoM: Hari Stead

Rumblers 4
C Williams (3), O Stevens
PoM: Cruz Williams

Monarchs 1
Z Francis
PoM: Zach Francis

Black Mumbas 9
T Anthony (4) L Robbertse (4) D Peters-Benjamin
PoM:Tyler Anthony

Vikings 5
K Leo, K Piek-Williams, R Fabian (2), W Young,
PoM: Nathan Thomas

Flix 5
R Stevens (2), L George (2) K Williams
PoM: Lebron George

JUNIOR FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Sunday 10 August 2025

9am **NH Stars vs Dabbling Devils**

9am **Rumblers vs New Horizons FC**

9.45am **Vikings vs Golden Gladiators**

9.45am **Flix vs Black Mumbas**

SPORTS ARENA



Bellboys continue to win as Fugees pick up first points in SHFA League Matchweek 4



Liam Yon, SAMS

The SHFA League 2025 continued over the weekend at Francis Plain with Fugees tasting victory for the first time as early title contenders, Bellboys and Rovers, both pick up wins.

In Saturday's only match, Fugees and Inter Galactic lined up with the guarantee that one or both would pick up their first points of the campaign. It was Fugees however who would dominate the proceedings, scoring ten goals, and taking home the three points in style. Young league debutant, Lukas Robbertse, was named as the Young Player of the Match for his impressive outing that saw him score his first senior goal. Lars Williams was also on target,