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OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Liam Yon, SAMS

Welcome to the first edition of The Sentinel Volume 15 everybody!

Thanks for your support over the years, some of you have backed us since we began The Sentinel back in 2012; you are the reason that we strive each week to bring you the latest news and factual information about what's happening on our Island home.

It was back in 2013, after completing my GCSEs, that I first had the opportunity to contribute to The Sentinel, then under the leadership of Darrin Henry. Like many 16-yr-olds, I didn't have much of an idea on what I wanted to do as a career. I'll admit, I was still placing priority on playing football and going out on the weekends at the time.

My GCSE results were good. Okay, without blowing my own trumpet, they were actually really good. This meant I had a number of opportunities being presented to me in terms of career paths that were all seen as viable areas where I could excel. I remember having a sit-down with the Island Statistician at the time, Paula McLeod, about a career is Statistics, which was very tempting considering my natural gift with numbers.

However, I was approached by Darrin to write a one-off football report for The Sentinel. I remember making my notes, putting together the report, and checking it over so many times before eventually sending it through. Then I got a reply – he was impressed! Those who have worked for Darrin will know, this doesn't happen too often. Recognising my flair for writing, he offered me an entry-level job, which I took. My first real job.

Quickly I grasped the concept of working here - the everyday pressure to meet deadlines, the importance of accuracy, the grind of getting information however necessary. Not only was I pretty good at – I thrived in these conditions and I felt like I found my calling.

Anyhow, flash forward over a decade, and though I have ventured beyond the walls of SAMS and even the shores of St Helena, I am still here working each day to keep you informed! From a kid with no real ambition, thousands of articles, news pieces and interviews later, I am proud to be the Editor of The Sentinel as we embark on Volume 15 :) Happy reading!

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

As a retired lawyer and social scientist, I wish to comment on the current claims and counter-claims, both from a narrow, legal perspective and a wider societal perspective. This is part 1 of a 3-part series. Part 1 gives a personal (not professional) opinion on the claims from the narrow legal perspective.

The claims and the Costs Ordinance

Claimants claimed damages for professional negligence.

SHG sought to undermine them by restricting which lawyers could represent claimants, how much costs a court could award (which affects whether claimants' lawyers can obtain "after-the event" insurance to ensure their fees are paid), etc. ("the Costs Ordinance").

What are the claimants claiming about the Costs Ordinance

The claimants claim that the Costs Ordinance breaches two human rights in the island's Constitution:-

Section 10(10) guarantees a right of access to an independent court or tribunal to assert a right. It does not create a right; the right to compensation for professional negligence arises under the common law of England, applicable to St Helena under the English Law (Application) Ordinance, 2005. (The Costs Ordinance assumed that there would continue to be a right to compensation for professional negligence and tried to restrict access to the courts, positively inviting a human rights claim under section 10(10).

Section 19(1) requires that a law must provide for "the prompt payment of adequate compensation" but that is compensation for a different type of claim entirely: not a claim for compensation for professional negligence but a claim that "property of any description shall [have] been compulsorily taken possession of, [or any] interest in or right to or over property of any description shall have been compulsorily acquired": in other words, this basis of challenge seems ill-founded legally: more a political argument; there is simply no "right to compensation for professional negligence" among the human rights.

The Dr Du Toit precedent: the other paper made much play of references to "equal treatment" with other British citizens. However, the sentence which accurately states the ground of judgement may simply be: *"The judge in that case ruled the two women were entitled to the same compensation as would be received in similar circumstances in the UK"*, i.e., the case may have turned simply upon the English Law (Application) Ordinance, 2005.

Several other laws have been quoted in support of the claimants: (a) the UK's Human Rights Act; (b) the European Convention of Human Rights (both of these similarly contain a guaranteed right of access to an independent court or tribunal, to assert rights, but contain no right to compensation for professional negligence); and (b) even the grandiosely-titled "UN Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on the Rule of Law" (which was, in reality, a resolution of the General Assembly; such resolutions have no legally-binding effect anywhere in the world; they are simply "recommendations", which have at most moral force, upon those UN members who are moral).

Then there is the mud-slinging about who spoke to whom, how long did the Legislative Council debate, why did they pass, and the Governor, approve the Costs Ordinance.

In short, there is one strong argument (section 10(10)) and the others are political; the Chagossians took their fight to the European Court, with little prospects of success but in an effort to obtain publicity for their political campaign.

(Next week: what will happen from the narrow, legal perspective, if the Costs Ordinance is struck down, and we widen our perspective to the societal one.)

Regards until next week,
Lucky Thomson

A memorial service for the late George Moyce formerly of Sapper Way will take place at St Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, 9th April 2026 at 11.30 am. All are welcome.

YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Some months ago, the other newspaper published discussion about whether St Helena should have an MP at Westminster, better to influence decisions affecting the island.

As quickly as it flared up, it fizzled out, the bucket of cold water being the island has too small a population, compared with the average Westminster seat.

But here's an observation: what does the island actually need?

I ask because many assemblies grant observer status: "a privilege granted by some organisations to non-members to give them an ability to participate in the organisation's activities" (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observer_status). Unlike an MP, observer status is not "all or nothing"; the assembly can choose which of the privileges of membership it allows the observer along a spectrum from "nearly nothing" to "nearly all", e.g. being on the circulation list for agendas (to know what's to be debated), access to the assembly's library/research service, official status to lobby government behind the scenes, ability (if called by the Speaker) to speak in debates, to submit proposals and amendments, the right of reply, to raise points of order and to circulate documents, etc.

The "nearly all" end of the spectrum is the EU's observer at the UN General Assembly, "which has been likened to the rights of full membership, short of the right to vote" (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_General_Assembly_observers).

There would be no voting right but, actually, it's the other privileges which are more effective. What would one individual MP's vote be worth anyway, when the government has a clear majority and "political parties tend to be so tightly orchestrated that their MPs often have little scope for free action"? (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/House_of_Commons_of_the_United_Kingdom).

The island has loyal supporters among MPs but, in addition to their "little scope for free action", they have a heavy constituency workload. The island has non-MP friends, too, who would speak up for it, if an observer were permitted to speak, and an office in London already.

The island would need a Commons Resolution to effect the necessary changes to rules, e.g. the House of Commons' Standing Order 13. (1) "The admission of strangers to the Chamber and the precincts of the House ... shall be subject to such orders and rules as the House may make."

But the Speaker is a good friend of the island, too ... perhaps the island could, with Sir Lindsay's sponsorship, obtain a limited privilege, share an observer with other BOTs, build up trust and "glide" along the spectrum towards the EU end.

Regards,

Lucky Thomson

A Supreme Swearing In

Judge Richard Wright KC officially sworn in as new Chief Justice



Liam Yon, SAMS

Back in January, The Sentinel reported that St Helena was soon to welcome a new Chief Justice as the presiding judge of the Supreme Court for St Helena, Ascension, and Tristan da Cunha, from 1 April this year. This week, the next step of this appointment was completed when, on Monday, Judge Richard Wright KC was officially sworn in as the new Chief Justice.

"Judge Richard Wright KC was officially sworn in today, 30 March 2026, as the Chief Justice of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha," said SHG on Monday. "This follows the previous announcement regarding his formal appointment to the role. Judge Wright succeeds Judge Rupert Jones, who has presided over the territory's judiciary since 1 January 2022."

In a quick comment from His Excellency Governor Nigel Phillips, on behalf of the three governments of the territory, he expressed gratitude to Judge Jones "for his service to the territory" before wishing the outgoing Chief Justice "well in his future endeavours."

Speaking back in January ahead of his appointment as the new Chief Justice, Judge Richard Wright said he was "very pleased to have been appointed as the next Chief Justice of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha" from 1 April.

"It will be a privilege to serve you in this important role delivering the efficient administration of Justice in the wider public interest," he continued. "I know I will be well supported in the discharge of my responsibilities by the Chief Magistrate and all of those who work in the administration of Justice."

Welcome Judge Richard Wright and best wishes in your new role!

The Infection is a Medical Emergency

UK concerned over Meningitis B outbreak in Kent, as vaccines are rolled out



The current MenB outbreak in Kent, UK, has been described as unprecendented



The majority of MenB cases are linked to attendees of a Kent nightclub in early March

Liam Yon, SAMS

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) are currently keeping a close eye on an "unprecedented" outbreak of Meningitis B (MenB) in Canterbury, Kent, UK, with 21 laboratory-confirmed cases of invasive meningococcal disease linked to the outbreak, all of which required hospitalisation. Tragically, two deaths have been confirmed; a Year 13 student from Faversham and a 21-year-old University of Kent student.

MenB is a severe bacterial infection which causes rapid inflammation of the protective membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord. It can also lead to life-threatening blood poisoning known as septicaemia. The infection is a medical emergency that can become life-threatening within 24 to 48 hours of the first symptoms, with research suggesting that roughly 1 in 10 infected individuals die, even with treatment, and up to 1 in 5 survivors face long-term complications such as brain damage, hearing loss, or limb amputations.

The latest information regarding the MenB outbreak identifies Kent, England, as the primary site of an "unprecedented" cluster first detected in mid-March 2026. According to the UKHSA, "the majority of cases (87%) are linked to attendees of Club Chemistry in Canterbury between March 5 and 7, 2026." While reports indicate that cases have slowed, health authorities remain on high alert due to the severity of the infection and its rapid progression. Linked cases have been identified in London and as far as France in an exchange student who had recently returned from Kent.

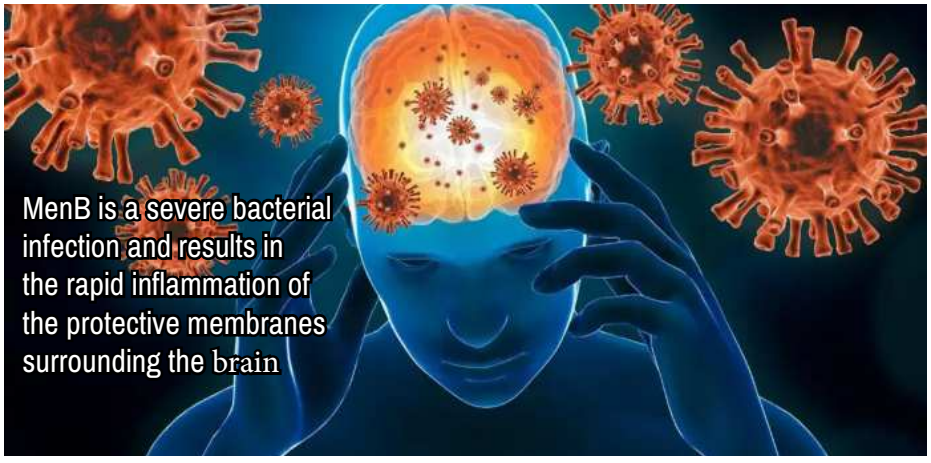
In terms of those affected, the outbreak has disproportionately affected teenagers and young adults, a group with naturally higher carriage rates of the bacteria but lower immunity because they were born before the routine MenB infant vaccination introduced in 2015.

In response to the current outbreak, over 10,000 people identified as potential close contacts have been offered preventative antibiotics to stop the spread, while a MenB vaccination programme is underway for approximately 5,000 students and staff at the University of Kent, with eligibility having recently expanded to include Year 11 pupils in certain Kent schools.

Different to common colds and COVID, Meningitis B is actually not very contagious because the bacteria cannot live for more than a few moments outside the human body. Therefore, it can't be caught from casual contact or breathing the same air in a room. Instead, it requires direct, prolonged contact with the "respiratory secretions" – essentially saliva or mucus – of someone carrying the bacteria.

Symptoms to watch out for include fever and a severe headache, a stiff neck and sensitivity to light, vomiting or confusion, and a non-fading rash. Health officials urge immediate medical attention if anyone does incur these symptoms.

As it stands, authorities have emphasised that the risk to the wider population remains low with no new confirmed cases having been reported for over a week as of March 28. While this suggests that St Helena should not be overly worried, the Health Portfolio will want to keep a close eye on developments in the UK in order to keep the St Helena community safe from this deadly bacterial infection.



MenB is a severe bacterial infection and results in the rapid inflammation of the protective membranes surrounding the brain

Getting a Measle-ey Jab

Health and Social Care inform of upcoming vaccination campaign to protect the community against the increasing risk of measles



Dr Jacob Asplin, Raquel Johnson and Sarah Newman-Leo of th Health section

Anita Robbertse, SAMS

The Health and Social Care Portfolio (HSC) is launching a campaign to update Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccinations on the island, especially in those born before 1989. Dr. Jacob Aplin, a UK Public Health Doctor working on the island for the next six months, came in to do an interview on SAMS Radio 1 with Cheryl Bedwell, School Nurse, and Raquel Johnson, Healthy Lifestyle Coach, to discuss the MMR vaccination programme.

The aim of this campaign is to increase immunity on-island against these diseases, particularly Measles. "Measles is a very contagious disease, caused by a virus, causing a rash on the skin of an infected person and it can also cause a high fever, cough, runny nose and sore eyes," explained Dr. Aplin, continuing to say, "it is one of the most contagious viruses that we know about, even more contagious than COVID-19." He stated that the virus could sometimes cause much more severe symptoms like inflammation of the brain, long-term disability and, in some cases, even death. The disease spreads rapidly through coughing and sneezing. "While routine childhood vaccinations were introduced on St Helena in 1989, many residents born before this date may lack natural immunity or full vaccination coverage," informed SHG in a press release to the public.



The efficacy of the vaccine is 97% once both doses have been received

A global rise in the spread of measles is causing some concerns regarding the risk this poses of a potential outbreak on the island. As a significant portion of the adult population on St Helena is potentially at risk due to a lack of immunity, this disease could cause severe illness and even death in at risk individuals. Individuals at risk of contracting the measles virus usually include young children, the elderly, pregnant women and people with a weaker immune system. "The disease can be really easily prevented by receiving two doses of the safe and effective MMR vaccine," Dr Aplin reassured.

This preventative program will aim to mitigate this risk by ensuring that the majority of the island's population are protected against measles and can then also not carry the disease, safeguarding those who cannot, in rare cases, receive the vaccine. "Some of these groups actually can't receive the vaccine so it is really important that others in the community receive the vaccine to protect those people around them as well," elaborated Dr. Aplin, continuing to state that "we need up to 95% of people on the island to be properly vaccinated against measles to prevent an outbreak."

With the support of the UK Health Security Agency, the HSC Portfolio is launching a 'targeted vaccination drive expected to begin in mid-April'. Residents born before 1989 are encouraged to register their interest with the portfolio. If you are unsure whether you missed one or both doses of the MMR vaccine, or if you would like to check your vaccination status, you can also contact the portfolio.

The Portfolio continued to assure the public that the safety of the MMR vaccine is globally proven and that the efficacy of the vaccine is 97% once both doses have been received. It is also safe to have more than the two recommended doses. "The MMR vaccine contains a weakened form of the actual viruses that commonly cause the disease, which then trains the immune system to fight the disease in the future," Cheryl explained as she reiterated that, "people need to have one vaccination and then, 28 days later, another to ensure the strongest possible protection."

It is estimated that measles vaccines have saved over 94 million lives over the past 50 years when regular vaccinations have been undertaken. As with any vaccine, recipients might experience a slight fever or maybe even a rash or pain, but this will most likely not last more than a day or two and after the second vaccination it is less likely to have any side-effects. Severe reactions are extremely rare.

Raquel then assured that the Health Promotion team, contactable on 25949, could check the vaccination records to confirm whether anyone on St Helena have received the vaccination in the past. "People who would like to register their interest should do so as soon as possible so the team can start organising appointments and clinic, especially those who cannot travel to Jamestown to receive the vaccination," encouraged Raquel. "The vaccines were supplied by the UK Health Security Agency which means they will be administered free of charge to all on island," she said.

The Health team will roll out the programme starting with the most vulnerable members of the community first and then offer it to everyone else thereafter.

Once the program is officially being rolled out, more details on dates and venues for where the vaccination will take place will be provided via various platforms.



MMR Vaccinations are set to be rolled out soon

"Celebrating what makes St Helena special"

'St Helena - A Breath of Fresh Air' logo achieves official registration

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government, last week, said they were "pleased to announce that the 'St Helena - A Breath of Fresh Air' destination logo has now been formally registered in the UK and locally."

The logo which is well-recognised on-Island, and beyond, forms part of the Celebrating St Helena destination brand, managed by SHG and used by Tourism and Investment in promotional material to share the island with the wider world.

According to SHG, this registration means the logo is now legally protected which "helps ensure the brand is used consistently and with care, protecting the identity of St Helena, and helping build confidence among people discovering St Helena for the first time."

They add that the updated version of the logo, which now includes the registered trademark symbol, will be introduced gradually across marketing materials, starting with digital platforms first and transitioning over time with printed materials as they are refreshed.

"Over time, the registered version of the logo will be introduced through a structured licensing arrangement," SHG explained. "This work also supports the development of brand accreditation pathways. These will recognise businesses and services that reflect the values and standards of the destination brand. Existing informal use of the logo will continue while these frameworks are developed."

SHG concluded by stating that "this milestone reflects a shared commitment to protecting and celebrating what makes St Helena special, so that the qualities valued today remain strong and recognisable for future generations."

The Tooth Hurts

St Helena to be without a Dentist during three weeks in April



St Helena will be without a dentist for three weeks in April

Liam Yon, SAMS

The Health and Social Care Portfolio have informed that there will be a temporary reduction in dental service provision on St Helena from Saturday, 4 April, to Sunday, 26 April, due to the absence of a dentist on-island during this period.

According to SHG, "patients experiencing dental pain, discomfort or urgent concerns are advised to contact the Dental Clinic during normal working hours via direct telephone number 25387," with all cases then subject to being triaged, assessed and "advised on the most appropriate course of action."

They add that "this may include pain management and temporary treatment where necessary," while "routine dental treatment and non-urgent procedures will be limited to services provided by the Dental Therapist" in the absence of a Dental Surgeon.

SHG say that they are kindly asking for the public's understanding and cooperation during this period, adding that "every effort is being made to minimise disruption and to resume full service as soon as possible."


Routine dental treatment and non-urgent procedures will be limited to services provided by the Dental Therapist

"A balance must be struck"

Executive Council approve Minimum Wage increase from 1 July



SHG says a balance must be struck when increasing the minimum wage in order to protect local businesses

Liam Yon, SAMS

During their meeting this week, on 24 March, the Executive Council approved an uplift to the minimum wage with effect from 1 July when the minimum wage will increase by 35p for persons aged 18yrs and over – from £4.50 per hour currently, to the new rate of £4.85. For those aged 16 and 17, ExCo have approved a 28p increase in the hourly rate, from £3.55 to £3.83.

According to SHG, "the approval of this increase supports the objective of establishing a more ambitious minimum wage which benefits workers while providing adequate time for businesses to plan and adapt."

They add that "in determining the increase, consideration was given to current cost of living pressures on both employees and employers" and that "it was noted that a balance must be struck," in order to provide an uplift while protecting local businesses.

"The Minimum Wage Policy recognises there are limits to what businesses can absorb in a single year, while also acknowledging the need to continue raising minimum income levels on St Helena to help encourage residents to remain in employment on-island," commented SHG. "This year's increase follows consultations with employers, employees, and other relevant stakeholders, including the Chamber of Commerce."



The mimimum wage for those 18 and over will be £4.85 per hour from 1 July

SHG then looked over the figures from 2013, when the minimum wage was first introduced on St Helena, where they detail how much each rate has risen in the 13 years since; for those 18yrs and older, the minimum wage rate has increased by £2.55 since 2013, rising from £2.30 per hour to £4.85, while those aged 16 and 17 have seen an increase of £2.38 per hour in the last 13 years from the original rate of £1.45 to the new rate of £3.83.

The new rates will take effect from 1 July 2026.

An Egg-stra Special Easter Surprise

New playground equipment at Longwood Green ready for use



New Junior Slide Set at Longwood Green

Liam Yon, SAMS

In a welcome update to the ongoing EDIP Playgrounds Project, SHG have advised this week that positive progress has been made at Longwood Green on the installation of new equipment, with the majority of these installations hoping to be ready for use before the Easter weekend.

As detailed by SHG, "the Playgrounds Project on Longwood Green, funded by the UK Government through the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP), is progressing well and it is anticipated that the majority of the facilities will be ready for use by Maundy Thursday, 2 April."

Detailing what can be expected at the new-look Longwood Green, SHG inform that, in addition to the existing equipment, the playground will now include a junior slide set, motorbike and donkey springers, a swing fitted with a team seat, a separate swing fitted with a cradle seat (for infants), and a children's timber fitness trail.

They add that "some of the family friendly facilities such as shade gazebos, concrete picnic bench sets and wooden seats will also be installed."

While it is hoped that most of the equipment will be ready for use from today, Maundy Thursday, the large timber climbing frame, found next to the fitness trail, will not be available for use from this time. To ensure safety, a soft surface is being installed beneath and around this piece of new equipment, which is planned



New Donkey Swinger at Longwood Green



New Monkey Swinger at Longwood Green



Residents of the HMP Prison working on the project



Newly installed shade gazebo at Longwood Green

to be ready for use later in April/May. As such, it is advised that this equipment will be fenced off and should not be used before it is ready.

As reported previously, the work to install new equipment at Longwood Green is being led by Mr Arnold Crowie and his team as AC's Multi-skill Contractors, alongside residents of His Majesty's Prison (HMP), Jamestown, in a collaborative approach.

According to SHG, both the contractor and the prisoners supporting them, "are diligently working towards the playground being ready for use by Maundy Thursday" and a further update will be issued when all of the work at Longwood Green is completed and use of the large timber climbing frame is permitted.

In terms of the Half Tree Hollow Playground, SHG also gave a brief update that this location remains a construction area, with no equipment installed at the moment. They do however add that "significant ground works have been completed" ahead of further works to develop the playground. They conclude by asserting that, until it is announced that the Half Tree Hollow playground is ready for use, likely in May, this area should not be used.

A great job by the contractor and helpers on their work so far and, no doubt, families will be looking forward to making use of the new equipment at Longwood Green, particularly over the Easter Weekend, when the area is a popular venue for those driving around the Island.



The new Children's Timber Fitness Trail will be ready for use by April or May following installation of a soft surface below and around it



Arnold Crowie, Director of AC's Multi-skill Contractors, with a new playground sign

"It's not perfect, but the finished product is 100 times better"

Roads Section successfully completes 9km Road Resurfacing Project



The Roads Team minus Bobby Leo and Darren Thomas

Liam Yon, SAMS

After 103 working days, utilising more than 150,000 litres of bitumen and over 1,000 yards of crusher dust, the Roads Team have successfully completed the target of resurfacing 9km of main roads on the island, through the UK-funded Road Resurfacing Project.

The project reached completion on Thursday, 26 March.

Giving background, Roads Manager, Deon Robbertse, recalls how "the project got the go ahead from the steering committee on 15 May 2025," following which "material supply contracts were immediately placed and we received our first bitumen at the end of June 2025."



Roads Manager, Deon Robbertse

As many will remember, and as Deon explained, "the project got off to a shaky start when we determined that the bitumen supplied was unsuitable," causing the Roads Team to take the difficult decision to delay the works on Ladder Hill Road until a suitable consignment of bitumen arrived.

"We ordered a replacement and the project finally got underway on 4 August 2025 with Phase 1 work starting at the bottom of Ladder Hill Road," he recapped. "The project then continued through HTH (Phase 2), then after a quick short stint on upper Napoleon Street, we moved into Phase 3; the section of road between Tomb Road and the Hutt's Gate junction."

Working efficiently, the Roads Team swiftly moved on to Phases 4 and 5 of the project; the road between the Airport and Bottom Woods junction all the way through Longwood Gate and towards Hutt's Gate. Finally, the team moved onto the last section in order to reach the 9km mark, this being Phase 6; the section of road between the Briar's junction and the bend close to Five Bar Gate.

"In the end, a total of 9030 meters of the primary classified roads on the island were resurfaced in less than eight months," confirmed Deon. "Hopefully, this 9km done will be maintenance-free for the next 7 to 12 years, and our recurrent budget funding, allocated for the maintenance of these roads, can then be utilised on other roads."

While the project is essentially complete, SHG have advised that there is still some "resurfacing between Five Bar Gate and Button-up Corner" that needs to be done. Unfortunately, recent unfavourable weather conditions are hindering progress. They detail how works were scheduled to continue last Friday and be completed this week on Monday and Tuesday, however weather at the time, and forecasted for the rest of this week, meant slurry works could not be carried out.

This is not an unusual occurrence for the Roads Section however, with a total of 16 days having been lost throughout the near eight-month project due to factors such as rain and cruise ship visits, among other reasons.

In terms of the final section to be completed, these slurry works are set to take place from Wednesday, 8 April, to Friday, 10 April, with daytime road closures from 9am to 3pm on these dates. Therefore, there will be no road closures between Briar's Junction and Button-up Corner for the remainder of this week, with the road currently open for use.

Looking back over the project and

the amount of work completed in a relatively short timeframe, Deon was proud of his team and grateful to everyone who made the project possible, from funders to subcontractors, and Ministers to the public.

"I'd like to thank the FCDO for supplying us with funding and the previous Ministerial Team for selecting this project, particularly Minister, Jeffrey Ellick, who pushed to get the funding to undertake this roads project," Deon commented. "I'd also like to recognise previous Minister, Mark Brooks, who was instrumental in allowing us to procure the Minimac slurry machine."

Continuing on, Deon said he was grateful "to the current Ministerial Team for their continuous support, along with the SS&HA Portfolio management team, in particular Derek and Alex."

Thanks were also extended to the Procurement Team "for ordering and arranging materials, tools, contracts and plant timely so work could continue," the PMO "for assisting with management, especially keeping us on our toes with the finances," the Comms Hub "that kept public announcements and information flowing," as well as "the Vehicle Fleet Section for timely and speedy services and maintenance of our equipment."

Deon then praised an thanked his "Roads Inspector and Roads Maintenance Supervisor for managing the project; sub-contractor, Clint Stevens, and his team, for supplying an excellent service in preparing the different phases for resurfacing; and the various sub-contractors that supplied material and plant."

Finally, Deon focussed on his roads team and the community of St Helena. "The whole of the roads team, each one of them, contributed to the success of the project," he said. "I think you can be very proud of what we achieved. Then also a big thank you to the members of the public that endured the project with us, they adhered to the road closures and, although there were disruptions, I believe the finished product is worth it."

Deon then quoted a member of the public, who said about the newly resurfaced roads on the Island that, "it's not perfect, but the finished product is 100 times better." With some material remaining, the Roads Section have indicated that they will look to continue resurfacing works, beyond the project, on other key areas on the Island in the coming months.













The Island Pulse

Unpacking LegCo: Questions, Accountability and the Road Ahead



— **Communications Champion Cllr Julie Thomas,** Contributed

Listeners of The Island Pulse were treated to a comprehensive and candid breakdown of proceedings from the Fifth Meeting of Legislative Council, held on 19 and 20 March 2026. In what host Councillor Julie Thomas described as a "marathon session," Councillors tackled 18 questions, 11 sessional papers and four debated motions - reflecting both the scale of governance on the island and the depth of issues currently facing the community.

This week's programme focused squarely on the questions posed by Councillors, the responses received from Ministers, and – crucially - whether those responses were deemed satisfactory. What emerged was a detailed picture of an island grappling with cost-of-living pressures, infrastructure demands, governance processes, and long-term sustainability.

Supporting Growth: Agriculture, Transport and Utilities Under Scrutiny

Councillor Derek Thomas opened the discussion with a focus on economic development and practical support for local industries. A key issue raised was the need for improved water access for farmers in Longwood. Following site visits and consultations with local farmers, it was evident that high water costs were limiting agricultural productivity.

Encouragingly, the Minister confirmed that plans for an additional water tank are under consideration. While funding remains a hurdle, the proposal signals recognition of the need to align agricultural policy with practical support.

On transport, Councillor Thomas advocated for reform to the Road Traffic Ordinance, proposing that new vehicles be exempt from MOT inspections for three years - mirroring UK practice. The aim is to incentivise the importation of newer, more efficient vehicles, particularly to support tourism and local transport services. The Minister indicated that such reforms will be considered in a forthcoming review.

However, it was the issue of utility costs that drew the most concern. Councillor Thomas sought an update on a previously passed motion calling for a review of Connect St Helena Ltd to ensure value for money. While an audit is planned later this year, Councillors emphasised that immediate action is needed, particularly in light of global pressures on fuel prices. As Councillor Thomas noted, efficiency savings must be pursued urgently to mitigate rising costs for islanders.

Cost of Living Pressures and Social Support Gaps

Councillor Dr Corinda Essex highlighted the growing strain on vulnerable members of the community, particularly those reliant on income-related benefits. Her question focused on whether sufficient measures are in place to protect individuals who are medically unfit to work from rising utility costs.

While government responses referenced existing support mechanisms, Councillor Essex expressed dissatisfaction, noting a disconnect between policy and lived experience. Several constituents, she reported, had been unable to access assistance despite clear need.

A potential shift toward more targeted subsidies - rather than universal ones - was welcomed, though Councillors stressed the importance of ensuring such reforms are implemented effectively.

Councillor Essex also revisited her motion for a comprehensive review of the social benefits system. While some progress has been made, the absence of clear timelines and prioritisation remains a concern. More broadly, she raised a systemic issue: the lack of a robust mechanism to track and implement motions passed in Legislative Council.

Historically, resolutions were actively progressed through Executive Council with structured feedback and accountability. Today, Councillors rely on a "tracker" that records decisions but does little to ensure follow-through. Calls were made for a return to a more effective system that supports delivery and accountability.

Infrastructure, Safety and Regulatory Gaps

Maritime safety emerged as a shared concern among Councillors. Both Dr Essex and Councillor Robert Midwinter highlighted the absence of regulations governing smaller vessels under 24 metres - a gap that has persisted since legislative changes in 2016.

The lack of licensing and competency requirements for crew members was described as alarming, particularly given recent incidents at sea. While assurances were given that regulations are in development, Councillors expressed frustration at the lack of visible progress.

Similarly, concerns were raised about the proposed bulk fuel installation project, particularly the plan to dock tankers at Rupert's jetty. Questions remain about whether this approach will limit operational flexibility and efficiency.

Communications, Infrastructure and Public Investment

Councillor Ronald Coleman turned attention to the island's communications infrastructure, questioning whether island-wide access to mobile, internet and television services has been achieved. The response confirmed that gaps remain, though progress is being made, including engagement with service providers to identify coverage issues.

A related concern is the absence of a dedicated Telecommunications Regulator - a role currently held in an interim capacity by the Attorney General. Councillors expressed unease that the position has not been budgeted for in

the upcoming financial year, potentially hindering implementation of the Communications Ordinance.

On infrastructure, Councillor Coleman also raised questions about the new prison project, including its design and cost implications. With over £1.2 million already allocated for excavation alone, the total cost is expected to be significant, prompting calls for transparency and careful financial planning.

Economic Viability and Public Spending

The introduction of a second insurance provider sparked debate about market viability. Councillor Coleman questioned whether a small population can sustain competition without negative consequences. While government framed the move as beneficial for competition, uncertainties remain regarding revenue implications and regulatory oversight.

Meanwhile, the long-awaited wastewater project for Half Tree Hollow and Jamestown appears to be progressing, despite funding challenges. Councillors welcomed this development, noting its importance for public health and environmental sustainability.

Airport Closure and Strategic Oversight

One of the most pressing issues discussed was the recent closure of St Helena Airport. Councillor Clint Beard described the situation as a "national disaster" and called for a thorough, independent investigation.

While Terms of Reference for an inquiry are being developed, Councillors expressed concern that they will not have sight of these before publication. This lack of involvement was criticised as a missed opportunity for collaborative governance.

Questions were also raised about interim measures to prevent similar disruptions. While improvements to fire engine readiness were noted, broader concerns about operational resilience - such as IT systems and maintenance protocols - remain unanswered.

Workforce, Opportunity and Fairness

Councillor Beard also scrutinised public sector spending, particularly the £2.5 million allocated to allowances - most of which supports Technical Cooperation (TC) posts. He argued that greater effort should be made to develop and retain local talent, rather than relying heavily on external expertise.

Concerns were raised about recruitment practices, with calls for clearer policies to ensure fair access to opportunities, especially for St Helenians living overseas who may wish to return.

Air Access and Economic Sustainability

Air access, described as the island's "lifeline," was another focal point. Councillor Beard questioned the rationale behind additional flights from Johannesburg, noting that some operated below capacity, potentially resulting in financial losses.

Given the reliance on subsidies to maintain air services, Councillors stressed the need for strategic planning to ensure routes are commercially viable and aligned with market demand.

Healthcare, Ageing and Social Care Pressures

Healthcare provision and the island's ageing population were also under the spotlight. Councillor Julie Thomas sought clarity on staffing levels and the development of a core healthcare offer.

While progress is being made, demand continues to outstrip capacity. Additional beds have been introduced, but concerns persist about long-term planning and whether services meet international standards.

Councillor Derek Thomas highlighted the removal of an £80,000 home adaptation budget, warning that this undermines efforts to support elderly residents living independently. The lack of respite care provision was also described as a critical gap, placing strain on families and carers.

Digital Investment and Financial Oversight

Questions were also raised about the use of BIOT funding for digital transformation. While progress is being made on strategy development, Councillors expressed concern about ongoing maintenance costs once funding expires.

Similarly, scrutiny of EDIP funding revealed that not all planned projects have been delivered, despite initial assurances. Councillors are seeking further clarification on how funds have been allocated and why some initiatives remain incomplete.

Looking Ahead: Select Committee Engagement

In a brief but important update, Councillor Dr Corinda Essex announced that Select Committee 2 will soon hold a live hearing on the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy delivery plan. Community input is encouraged, with further details to be shared in upcoming programmes.

A Commitment to Transparency and Accountability

As the programme concluded, it was clear that while progress is being made across multiple fronts, significant challenges remain. From cost-of-living pressures and infrastructure gaps to governance processes and financial oversight, Councillors continue to push for transparency, accountability and tangible outcomes.

In the words of Councillor Julie Thomas: "*Our goal is always to keep you, the community, at the heart of the conversation - because strong governance depends on an informed and engaged public.*"

This sentiment reflects not only the purpose of *The Island Pulse*, but the broader role of Legislative Council itself: to represent, scrutinise and serve the people of St Helena - ensuring that democracy remains active, responsive and rooted in the needs of its community.

Scout Jackpot Draw

The winners of the March
Scout Jackpot were as follows:

1st Prize - £100 – Sharon M Williams
Ticket No. 248

2nd Prize - £50 – Tracey Buckley
Ticket No. 108

3rd Prize - £25 – Lily Andrews
Ticket No. ? (number torn off)

4th Prize - £25 – Kathryn Peters
Ticket No. 204

The draw for April will take place on 1 May

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

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. Apr 3

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

SAT. Apr 4

- 9am-11: Indie Waves with Sue (Repeat)
- 12noon-1pm: 80's hour
- 1pm-3pm: Northward Sounds (Repeat)
- 3:30-5pm: Modern Country Chart with Anita (Repeat)
- 6pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 8:30pm: Out Out (repeat)

SUN. Apr 5

- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Liam
- 1pm: Interview Hour
- 3-4:30pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7pm: Salvation Army Church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations with Anita

MON. Apr 6

- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 1pm-3pm: Indie Waves with Sue
- 3-5pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 5:30pm: Country Classics with Donna
- 7:30pm: In the Know with Ministers

TUE. Apr 7

- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Anita
- 11am: Vibes with Annika
- 2pm: The Island Pulse
- 3:30pm: American Connections with Brian Clough
- 5:30-7pm: UK chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7:30pm: Classical Compilations with Anita

WED. Apr 8

- 7am-8:30am : Midweek morning show with Deon
- 11am: Northward Sounds with Tony Leo
- 1-3pm 1548 show with Cyril Gunnell
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett

THU. Apr 9

- 7am - 10am: Sunrise with Liam & Luke
- 1pm: In the Know (repeat)
- 3-5pm: Vibes with Annika (repeat)
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Anita
- 7:30pm: The Island Pulse

sure

Bringing you the

BBC World Service

100.7 (Briars)

88.1 (High Knoll)

102.7 (Blue Hill)

Featured this Week





Join Liam for the Easter Sunday Morning Show on SAMS Radio 1 from 7am until 12 noon.

As always he will be playing a mix of tunes, though this week will put some emphasis on those reggae vibes for all the campers out there!

Spend Easter Sunday with Liam, only on SAMS Radio 1!

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

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

SAMS South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

TIME OUT





HAPPY EASTER



Easter Word Scramble

Instructions: Unscramble the letters to find the words from the list below.

ndusya	_ _ _ _ _ _
gesg	_ _ _ _
olrewfs	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
takebs	_ _ _ _ _ _
nuynb	_ _ _ _ _
snirgp	_ _ _ _ _ _
traroc	_ _ _ _ _ _
nuth	_ _ _ _
ihkcc	_ _ _ _ _
cortdeea	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Happy Easter everybody! Why not indulge this weekend with a tasty Easter treat?

Easter Rocky Road



Ingredients

- 175g dark chocolate, broken into pieces
- 125g milk chocolate, broken into pieces
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 75g unsalted butter, diced
- 160g sugar-coated mini chocolate eggs
- 200g digestives or rich tea biscuits, broken into pieces
- 75g mini marshmallows
- 50g hazelnuts, roughly chopped (optional)
- 75g raisins

Method

1. Line a 20x30cm baking tin with baking paper.

2. Place the dark and milk chocolate pieces in a large heatproof bowl and add the golden syrup and butter. Set the bowl over a pan of barely simmering water but do not allow the bottom of the bowl to touch the water. Stir from time to time until the butter and chocolate are melted and the mixture is smooth. Remove from the heat and leave to cool for 5 minutes – if this is too hot the marshmallows will melt.

3. Cut the chocolate mini eggs in half (leaving a few whole) and set aside one third of the eggs, including the whole ones for decorating. Gently fold in the chocolate eggs, biscuits, marshmallows, nuts and raisins into the chocolate mixture and mix to combine. Spoon into the prepared tin and spread level using the back of the spoon. Scatter with the reserved whole and halved mini eggs.

4. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour, or until completely firm. Cut into bars to serve.

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena National Trust Announces Major Milestone in the Restoration of No.1 Building for Trans-Atlantic Slave Memorial Project

The St Helena National Trust (SHNT) is proud to announce a significant milestone in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Memorial Project. On March 23, 2026, the Trust officially signed a contract with the Commonwealth Heritage Forum (CHF) to fund restoration works on the historic No.1 Building in Rupert's Valley. This First Stage, will restore the building that will become a permanent memorial dedicated to the Liberated Africans, as part of Phase 2 of the Liberated African Advisory Committee's (LAAC) Master Plan, approved in October 2020.

The Commonwealth Heritage Forum has awarded the project £165,000 under its Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Commonwealth Heritage Skills Training Programme, supported by the Vinehill Trust, which develops hands-on craft skills and the sustainable strategies needed to repair historic buildings at risk and manage change in the historic environment in the Commonwealth and wider anglosphere. Both the Commonwealth Heritage Forum and the SHNT are grateful to the Vinehill Trust for funding Phase 2 of the Heritage Skills Training Programme, under which St Helena's grant has been awarded.

The No.1 Building, often referred to as the 'old hospital,' is the last remaining structure from the Liberated African Establishment, built in 1865. This long, single-storey stone building once provided accommodation for those disembarking from slave ships, marking a dark yet essential part of St Helena's history. The restoration project will preserve the building's historic fabric, including the repair of the roof, walls, floors, and windows, while maintaining its original appearance to honour those who passed through it.



Figure 1- No.1 Building in Rupert's Valley

The Interpretation Centre is part of a broader effort to promote public awareness of the tragic history of enslavement and St Helena's role in this global narrative. The building will serve as a powerful reminder of the resilience of the Liberated Africans and the island's own involvement in the slave trade. The restoration work will also incorporate a building heritage skills training program, designed to equip local professionals with conservation-focused skills, fostering sustainable, long-term capacity for the preservation of St Helena's built heritage.

The CHF, a global network dedicated to the conservation of historic buildings within the Commonwealth, has been instrumental in supporting this project. Their funding and expertise will help ensure that the restoration meets best practice conservation standards.

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

"We are incredibly grateful for the support from the St Helena Government and the Commonwealth Heritage Forum in making this project a reality," said Helena Bennett, Director of SHNT, and Chairperson for the LAAC. "This restoration is more than just about preserving a building – it's about recognising and commemorating a key part of our shared history. We are thrilled to move forward with this vital project that will leave a lasting legacy for future generations."

The restoration design plans will soon be submitted for approval by the Planning Office, and public meetings will be held to present the designs and outline the restoration process. These meetings will provide an opportunity for the community to learn more about the project, and understand the next steps, including fundraising for Stage Two. This next phase will focus on fitting out the No.1 Building for its use as museum, exhibition, and research facility. Details of these meetings will be announced in local newspapers and on social media.



Figure 2 - LAAC members and Conservation Architect

The SHNT would like to extend its thanks to SHG's External Funding Coordinator and the St Helena Government UK Office for their invaluable support in negotiating the project's funding application and contract.

- For further information, or to donate, please contact the St Helena National Trust at shelley.magellan-wade@trust.org.sh, +290 25531, or visit our website http://www.trust.org.sh
- For information about the Commonwealth Heritage Forum, please visit: https://www.commonwealthheritage.org/
- For information about the Vinehill Trust, please visit: http://vinehilltrust.uk

St Helena National Trust
25 March 2026

Commonwealth Heritage Forum
Sharing Our Common Heritage

VINEHILL TRUST

TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE MEMORIAL ST HELENA

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING…

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.

Sea Rescue Crew (Auxiliary)

(£6.38 per hour) 18 years + and must be able to swim and pass a fitness test. The successful applicant will receive a monthly retainer of £70 on completion of basic training.

Are you passionate about protecting lives at sea and helping our island community thrive? The St Helena Sea Rescue Service is seeking highly motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join our team. If you have the ability to stay calm under extreme physical and mental pressure, this could be the opportunity for you.

It's a hands-on, immersive day that could be the start of your journey with us. Why not give it a try—you might discover this is the role you've been waiting for.

Ongoing Training

Our crew trains every Wednesday afternoon, giving you the chance to build skills, gain confidence, and become part of a dedicated team committed to saving lives at sea.

We invite you to contact us for more information and to discuss these exciting roles

Enquiries: Leeroy Caswell or Mark Caswell on Tel no. 25215 or
Email: leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh
Email: mark.caswell@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: 15 April 2026
Swim Test: 21 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 24 April 2026
Interview date: 01 May 2026

Maintenance & Supplies Supervisor

(£11,604 per annum)

The Community Care Centre is seeking to appoint a Maintenance & Supplies Supervisor to join its small and dynamic team. The individual will be responsible for supervising Handymen/Drivers, including the daily allocation of work schedules, overseeing cleaning and general maintenance activities, and reporting any vehicle repairs to the Transport Section. The post holder will also be required to carry out maintenance tasks and minor repairs across all Social Care premises, as requested. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Tinevimbonashe Hove on Tel No. 23090 or Email: Tinevimbonashe.hove@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 20 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 23 April 2026
Interview date: Wk. commencing 11 May 2026

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.

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

Maritime Officer
(£11,554 per annum)

The Maritime Officer is a supporting role to the Maritime Authority.

The Maritime Officer will provide administrative and operational support to the development and remit of the Maritime Authority and assist with the design and implementation of the required systems and processes when needed. This will include providing direct assistance to all relevant SHG Officers involved in achieving, implementing and maintaining maritime compliance as necessary.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Mia Henry on Tel No. 25970 or Email: mia.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 15 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 17 April 2026
Interview date: 23 April 2026

Health & Safety Officer
(£13,569 per annum)

The Health & Safety Officer will enhance the well-being of everyone in our community and support the prosperity of the island, collaborating with Emergency Planning, while implementing and ensuring adherence to SHG health and safety (OHS) regulations. The main responsibility will involve providing guidance on strategies to reduce mitigate hazards and uphold a safe and secure working environment throughout SHG, in compliance with legal safety requirements and fostering a culture that prioritizes security and safety. this is a perfect opportunity for someone starting out in their career to build knowledge of SHG and progress into management and leadership positions in the future.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Anel O'Bey on Tel No. 25052 or Email: anel.obey@helanta.co.sh
Closing date: 15 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 17 April 2026
Interview date: 23 April 2026

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Claims Officer
(£13,569 per annum)

Do you have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to apply objective judgement? Here is an opportunity for you to join the team at the Claims Office. In this role you will carry out the duties of the Adjudication Officer, as provided for in the Social Security Ordinance, through the interview and assessment of Income Related Benefit and Basic Island Pension applicants. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Gail Beard on Tel No. 22605 or Email: gail.beard@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 17 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 22 April 2026
Interview date: 30 April 2026

Social Care Officer
(£13,569 per annum)

Are you interested in joining a small, dynamic team? If so, Social Care is offering an opportunity to become a Social Care Officer. In this important role, you will work directly with children and families, building meaningful relationships and contributing to the delivery of family and parenting support programmes. You will also support Social Workers with assessments by gathering information, carrying out direct work and delegated tasks, and contributing to observations. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Amy Martin on Tel No. 23312 or Email: amy.martin@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 20 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 23 April 2026
Interview date: 04 May 2026

Cook (Community Care Centre)
(£10,088 per annum)

The Community Care Centre is seeking to recruit a Cook with the ability to prepare high-quality, nutritious, and well-presented meals and baked goods for large numbers of people. The individual will be responsible for providing meals to residents, including hospital patients and other Health & Social Care services. The role requires strict adherence to safe catering practices, alongside maintaining a clean, organised, and hygienic kitchen environment. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Tinevimbonashe Hove on Tel No. 23090 or Email: Tinevimbonashe.hove@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 17 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 22 April 2026
Interview date: Wk. commencing 11 May 2026

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

Care Assistants – Social Care
(£10,213 per annum)

Social Care is seeking to recruit Care Assistants to support the delivery of high standards of care and promote the well-being of clients across Ebony View, the Community Care Centre, and Sheltered Accommodation. In this post, the individuals will be responsible for assisting with all aspects of client care, including personal hygiene, toileting needs, and mobilisation. They will be required to ensure that clients' privacy, dignity, and respect are maintained at all times.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Latoya Thomas on Tel No. 23151 or Email: latoya.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh
Kelly Hopkins on Tel No. 23343 or Email: kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.gov.sh
Tinevimbonashe Hove on Tel No. 23090 or Email: tinevimbonashe.hove@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 17 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 22 April 2026
Interview date: Wk. commencing 4 May 2026

Assistant PAYE Officer
(£10,088 per annum)

Are you interested in being a part of a small dynamic team? If so, Treasury has an opportunity to join their Income Tax team. In this important role, the Assistant PAYE Officer will be providing day to day management of the PAYE system, auditing the Tax data for individual employee taxpayers and dealing with tax queries, ensuring all PAYE taxes are collected in line with the Income Tax Ordinance. The post holder will also be responsible for the storage and updating of all PAYE tax information (both physically and electronically) on a regular basis, for easy retrieval and to satisfy statutory obligations.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Connie Stevens on Tel No. 22825 or Email: connie.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 17 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 22 April 2026
Interview date: 06 May 2026

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

Senior Care Assistants - Social Care
(£11,935 per annum)

Social Care is seeking to recruit Senior Care Assistants to work across the areas of Ebony View, the Community Care Centre, and Sheltered Accommodation. The successful candidates will be responsible for delivering care and promoting the well-being of service users in accordance with individual Care Plans, as well as established unit procedures and guidelines. Applicants should possess strong interpersonal skills and have experience of working with challenging behaviour within a care setting.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Latoya Thomas on Tel No. 23151 or Email: latoya.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh
Kelly Hopkins on Tel No. 23343 or Email: kelly.hopkins@sainthelena.gov.sh
Tinevimbonashe Hove on Tel No. 23090 or Email: tinevimbonashe.hove@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 21 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 24 April 2026
Interview date: Wk. commencing 4 May 2026

Legislative Council Office Assistant
(£11,604 per annum)

The Legislative Council Office is seeking to recruit a motivated individual with proven effective administrative skills to provide the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Members of the Legislative Council with secretarial, research and administrative support. If you are interested in this opportunity, then we would be keen to hear from you. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Anita Legg on Tel No. 22470 or Email: anita.legg@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 15 April 2026
Shortlisting date: 20 April 2026
Interview date: 27 April 2026

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



St Helena Government

APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

1. **Application 2026/29:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Customer Kiosk and Toilet Extension,** Longwood Refueling Station, Longwood, on Parcel LWN0374, **Applicant:** Solomon & Company Plc, C/o Ian Gough.
2. **Application 2026/30:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Topping of Banyan Tree**, Former Duke of Edinburgh Playground, Jamestown on Parcel JT080061, **Applicant:** Property Service.
3. **Application 2026/31:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Sheep Shelter**, Mill Field, Longwood on Parcels LWN0426. **Applicant:** Richard C. Scipio.
4. **Application 2026/32:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Covered Area**, Longwood Hangings on Parcels LWN0526. **Applicant:** Clint Fowler

Copies of the Applications and Plans may be inspected by prior appointment with the Planning Section, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown, Monday to Friday, from 08.30am to 4pm. Appointments can be made with the Administration Assistant on Telephone 24724 or email rea.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh stating the Application Reference Number they wish to inspect.

Any person who wishes to make Representations on any of the above Applications should make them in writing to the Planning Office, Essex House, Main Street, Jamestown or Email planning.mailbox@sainthelena.gov.sh

Public Representation Closing Date: 4pm – 16 April 2026

Patricia Coyle, Head of Planning & Building Control

NOTICE BOARD

Vacancy

Part-Time Cargo Processing Agent

Rate of pay will commence at £6.20 per hour

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a Part-Time Cargo Processing Agent to join the team at St Helena Airport.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a high standard of English & ICT skills
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be committed to undertaking the required training as well as the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake manual handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Be able to work with accuracy and a high degree of attention to detail
- Have the ability to multitask in a high pressure environment
- Have the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- Be committed to undertaking continuous learning and development.

For further information contact:

Jason Thomas, General Manager (Agencies) via 22523 gm-agencies@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 **09 April 2026**

Please note applicants must be resident on St Helena at the time of applying.

Vacancies

Part-Time Aircraft Cleaner

Rate of pay will commence at £5.60 per hour

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a Part-Time Aircraft Cleaner to join the team at St Helena Airport.

The Aircraft Cleaner will be responsible for the cleaning of the Airport Terminal on the days of aircraft operations and also cleaning of aircraft cabins of arriving and departing Aircraft.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a good standard of English & ICT
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training including both classroom and online-based training
- Be available to undergo the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake manual handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Be able to work with a high degree of attention to detail
- Have the ability to remain calm under pressure.

For further information contact:

Jason Thomas, General Manager (Agencies) via 22523 gm-agencies@solomons.co.sh

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Please note applicants must be resident on St Helena at the time of applying.

NOTICE BOARD

Vacancy
General Assistant (Bread Production)

Salary for the post will be £11,940 per annum (£995 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a General Assistant within the Bakery.

The General Assistant will become a vital part of the day-to-day preparation and production of bread and related products, ensuring high standards of quality and hygiene are achieved.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have basic numeracy and literacy ability
- Ideally possess knowledge and experience in this field, including Food & Hygiene and Health & Safety Awareness with the ability to carry out manual handling duties
- Have the ability to take on physically demanding duties and stand for extended periods
- Have the ability to multitask in a fast paced environment and follow instructions
- Be able to manage time effectively to ensure production deadlines are met with good organisation skills
- Be available to work unsocial hours

Basic Applicable Skills include:

- Be able to carry out and understand basic measurements and follow written recipes
- Be able to prepare bread dough and other bakery products according to recipes and production schedules
- Ability to follow instructions accurately and work effectively as part of a team
- Operating production equipment as required
- Packaging and delivering products
- Ability to carry out routine and deep cleaning tasks to a high standard

Further details contained in job description

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

Daryl Legg, General Manager (Production) via 22380 gm-productions@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 **09 April 2026.**

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

- Pension Contributions
- Staff Discounts

Vacancy
Part-Time Skilled Operators

Rate of pay will be £7.02 per hour.

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has vacancies for Part-Time Skilled Operators to join the Company's Stevedore Team.

The successful applicants will be responsible for operating heavy equipment, including facilitation of the loading and offloading of shipping containers and cargo from sea vessels and transporting containers and cargo to specified lay down areas.

The positions will include working within ship side or shore side operations.

Working hours will be according to ship and cargo operations, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Be in possession of a clean and valid drivers' licence in classes H3, J1, J3 & J4, with a minimum of two years' experience
- Have strong technical skills
- Have excellent hand-eye coordination and the ability to work at heights
- Have the ability to adapt quickly to changing conditions ensuring operations remain safe
- Demonstrate attention to detail with an excellent level of vigilance within the work environment
- Possess strong communication skills
- Have a good level of physical fitness with the ability to undertake physically demanding tasks
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment with a high regard for Health & Safety and Port Compliance
- Be able to work in varying weather conditions

For further information contact:

Mario Coleman, Marine & Cargo Operations Manager via 22030 mario.coleman@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 **16 April 2026.**

Please note applicants must be resident on St Helena at the time of applying

NOTICE BOARD

Vacancy

Part-Time Rigger

Rate of pay will be £5.50 per hour.

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for a Part-Time Rigger to join the Company's Stevedore Team.

The successful applicant will be responsible for preparing, identifying and selecting the correct lifting accessories, attaching and detaching lifting equipment to cargo ensuring all loads are secure and balanced for safe lifting and transportation.

This position will primarily be based ship-side.

Working hours will be according to ship and cargo operations, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent communication skills (including signalling and radio communications).
- Have a good level of physical fitness with the ability to undertake physically demanding and manual handling tasks.
- Have excellent eye hand coordination and the ability to work at heights.
- Possess an excellent level of vigilance and attention to detail.
- Be able to work effectively in a fast-paced and dynamic team environment while remaining safety-conscious and adhering to Health and Safety and Port compliance at all times.
- Be able to work in varying weather conditions with the flexibility to work outside of normal hours as and when required.
- Be available to undertake the necessary training to develop skills further ensuring competency in the role.

For further information contact:

Mario Coleman, Marine & Cargo Operations Manager via 22030 mario.coleman@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 **16 April 2026.**

Please note applicants must be resident on St Helena at the time of applying

Vacancy

Safety & Compliance Officer

Salary for the post will range between £18,513.00 - £20,000.00 per annum; depending on qualifications and experience

Job Outline:

Responsible for planning, implementing and overseeing safety all elements of safety and compliance, through BOU Managers, in accordance with laws, regulations, standards and ethical practices as applicable to the Company in respect of environmental management and workplace health and safety, as applicable to all aspects of the Company's diverse portfolio of business interests.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have IOSH or similar Health & Safety Certification
- Have 3 – 5 years' experience in a Health & Safety / Compliance role
- Have 3 years' experience in a supervisory or management role
- Have grade C or above in English and Maths or equivalent
- Be computer literate in the use of Microsoft Applications
- Have the ability to multi-task, organise workload and meet tight deadlines
- Have excellent organisation, interpersonal & communication skills
- Be analytical and have a high degree of accuracy with attention to detail
- Be able to maintain total confidentiality within the Company
- Be experienced in data collation, analysis and able to create reports
- Ideally be knowledgeable of Food Safety practises.

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

Paul Gasteen, Chief Operating Officer via 22380 paul.gasteen@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 Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **09 April 2026.**

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

- Pension Contributions
- Staff Discounts

NOTICE BOARD

Vacancy

Part-Time Ramp Handlers

Rate of pay will commence at £6.20 per hour, increased to £7.20 per hour upon completion of relevant training.

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has vacancies for Part-Time Ramp Handlers to join the team at St Helena Airport.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a good standard of English & ICT
- Be in possession of a clean & valid Drivers' Licence ideally in class D
- Be committed to delivering an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be committed to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake repetitive Manual Handling & physically demanding duties
- Have the ability to multitask in a fast paced environment to meet tight deadlines
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment and remain calm in high pressure situations

For further information contact:

Jason Thomas, General Manager (Agencies) via 22523 gm-agencies@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 **Thursday, 16 April 2026.**

Please note applicants must be resident on St Helena at the time of applying.

Vacancy

Part-Time Security Officers

Rate of pay will commence at £6.20 per hour, increased to £7.20 per hour upon completion of relevant training.

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy for Part-Time Security Officers to join the team at St Helena Airport.

Working hours will be according to flight operations and training requirements, including both weekdays and weekends.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have excellent interpersonal & communication skills and be able to work in a disciplined environment
- Possess a high standard of English & ICT skills
- Be customer focused and able to deliver an excellent level of Customer Service
- Be available to undertake the required training and the necessary background and medical checks
- Be able to undertake Manual Handling & physically demanding duties
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment
- Have the ability to multitask and work with a high degree of accuracy in a high pressure environment
- Have the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- Be committed to continuous learning and development

For further information contact:

Jason Thomas, General Manager (Agencies) via 22523 gm-agencies@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 **Thursday, 16 April 2026.**

Please note applicants must be resident on St Helena at the time of applying.

NOTICE BOARD

JOB VACANCY

STC SAINTS TUNA CORPORATION

Job Title: Accountant

Saints Tuna Corporation (STC) is seeking a **qualified and detail-oriented Accountant** to join our team.

The successful candidate will be responsible for maintaining financial accounts and records, preparing financial statements and reports, managing accounts payable and receivable, manage day to day transactions and ensuring compliance with relevant financial regulations.
The role may include additional responsibilities related to financial management and administration as required by the company.

Qualifications:

- Degree in Accounting, Finance, or relevant field.
- Relevant accounting experience
- Experience with accounting software and advanced MS Excel skills
- Strong attention to detail and analytical skills.

Please mail your CV to info@saintstunacorp.com

Closing date: 9/04/2026

Festival of Walking - Thank You

St Helena Island A breath of fresh air



St Helena Tourism would like to extend a huge congratulations and heartfelt thanks to everyone who took part in the Festival of Walking 2025/26.
A special thank you goes to our incredible walking guides, whose passion, stories, and knowledge of the island made each walk a truly memorable experience for all participants.

This year's festival was a success, with over 200 participants and covering a combined distance of just over 60km across all routes. From breathtaking landscapes to rich history and meaningful connections, we hope every participant enjoyed discovering the unique spirit of our island.

If you captured moments from your walks and would like to help us promote St Helena, we would love to hear from you. Contact us at: visit@sainthelena.gov.sh

NOTICE BOARD

We're Hiring:

Mantis St Helena

Administration Assistant

Be the backbone of our admin team

We are looking for a motivated and organised Administrative Assistant to join our team. This role is ideal for someone with strong administrative skills, a basic understanding of finance, and good working knowledge of Microsoft applications.

WHAT YOU'LL DO:

- Provide day-to-day administrative support to the admin department
- Assist with basic finance tasks such as invoicing, data entry, and record-keeping
- Maintain accurate filing systems and documentation
- Support the team with scheduling, correspondence, and general office duties
- Use Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook) to prepare documents and reports

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- Previous admin experience is an advantage
- Basic knowledge of finance or bookkeeping
- Confident using Microsoft Office applications
- Strong attention to detail and organisational skills
- Good communication and teamwork abilities

APPLY NOW by sending your CV and brief cover letter to Robyn-Tionette.FRANCONI@mantiscollection.com and shanon.cornelson@mantiscollection.com

A valid vetting certificate is required for employment



Thank You

The family of the late Keith George Benjamin affectionately known as King George, would like to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone who offered support during this difficult time.

We are deeply grateful to the nurses and medical team for their care and compassion shown to Keith before and after his passing. Our sincere thanks go to Bishop Dale and Deacon Bobby for conducting the funeral service and home visits, Mr Dale Leo and Mrs Kim Henry for the beautiful wreaths and floral arrangements, Roy and his team for their assistance with the burial and to all people who generously donated flowers.

A special thank is extended to Melvyn Roberts, Darren McCoy, Mervyn Peters, Cherilee Thomas - Johnson and Winnie Thomas and to all family and friends for your overwhelming support, kind messages and condolences.

You all brought comfort with your love and presence.

Keith's memory will forever remain in our hearts.

NOTICE BOARD



'After Easter Meat Feast' Dinner & Dance

Kingshurst Community Centre
Friday 10th April 2026 starting at 7pm
Tickets £13.50 per person. Children 11 years and under can eat for half price

Dinner Menu includes: Roast Gammon, Beef, Chicken & Pork with a Fish Bake option, Roast Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Coleslaw and Gravy, followed by Dessert

To book a ticket call Joy on 24717, Beattie 24691, Karen 23401 or Gilbert on 24666 by no later than 4 pm on Tuesday 7th April 2026.

Music for dancing by DJ Colin Peters
Bar facilities will be available
Proceeds for St. Paul's Parish funds

St Paul's Parish Council would also like to sincerely thank everyone who so generously donated to and bought from their Cake and Candy Stall in the Jamestown Market on Thursday 26th March. The winner of the lucky draw of a cake was Elaine Young. The total amount raised on the day was £347.00.

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

Public Meeting: A New Future for Rupert's Valley No. 1 Building

The St Helena National Trust (SHNT) and the Liberated African Advisory Committee (LAAC) are pleased to announce a public meeting regarding the development of the **No. 1 Building in Rupert's Valley** into a dedicated **Museum and Interpretation Centre**. Built in 1865, the No. 1 Building is the sole surviving remnant (above ground) of the 'Liberated African Establishment.'

The Centre is envisioned as a part museum, displaying reproductions of artefacts which were reburied. A place to convey historical information and interpretation both about St Helena's role in the trans-Atlantic slave trade abolition and also its enslavement legacy when it was originally colonised.

We therefore invite the community to attend our open sessions to ask questions and share feedback:

St Michael's Church, Rupert's: 7:00pm - Tuesday 21st April

Museum of St Helena: 7:00pm - Weds 22nd April

Your participation is essential to preserving and interpreting our shared heritage.
We look forward to seeing you there!

NOTICE BOARD



ST ANDREWS NEWSPAPER BINGO

Games will be played over a five-week period – each week a different set of numbers will be published

This week the "red" bingo sheet will be used.
Numbers to be read across, from left to right

Claim on earliest number for full house will be the winner

Claims to be made to Karen Henry on 23401 by Saturday 4 April at 6 pm.

Prize - £20 per week

79	83	27	4	24	58	16	61	59	90
87	28	12	71	35	10	53	48	37	8
20	14	80	40	66	54	3	84	38	72
56	46	15	34	26	82	44	6	57	67
45	19	85	41	33	63	74	23	52	89
31	2	76	49	86	39	55	21	88	60
25	18	47	81	36	62	73	7	22	50



Church Notices

We warmly invite you to join us for:

Good Friday Service followed by Bring and Share Fish Fry

3rd April 2026 at 10.00

Prayer Meeting

Saturday 04 April 2026 at 8:30am-Online

(Contact: Anthony Hopkins-51672 for details)

Easter Sunday Praise and Worship Service

Sunday 05th April 2026 11.00am

@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 7th April 2026

Jamestown @ 7.00pm (Contact: Bramwell 62117 for details)

Wednesday 8th April 2026

Half Tree Hollow @ 7.00pm (Contact: Mercy 61707 for details)

The Rock Christian Fellowship, Longwood Avenue at 7.00pm

(Contact: Gareth: 62388 for details)

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services, 5th April
Sandy Bay Chapel, 8.45am
Head O'Wain Chapel, 10.45am
Jamestown Chapel, 6pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday, 7th April:
Baptist School Hall, 7pm
Wednesday, 8th April:
Blue Hill Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 9th April:
Sandy Bay Chapel, 5.30pm

ALL ARE WLCOME

For further information contact:
Tel No 22388

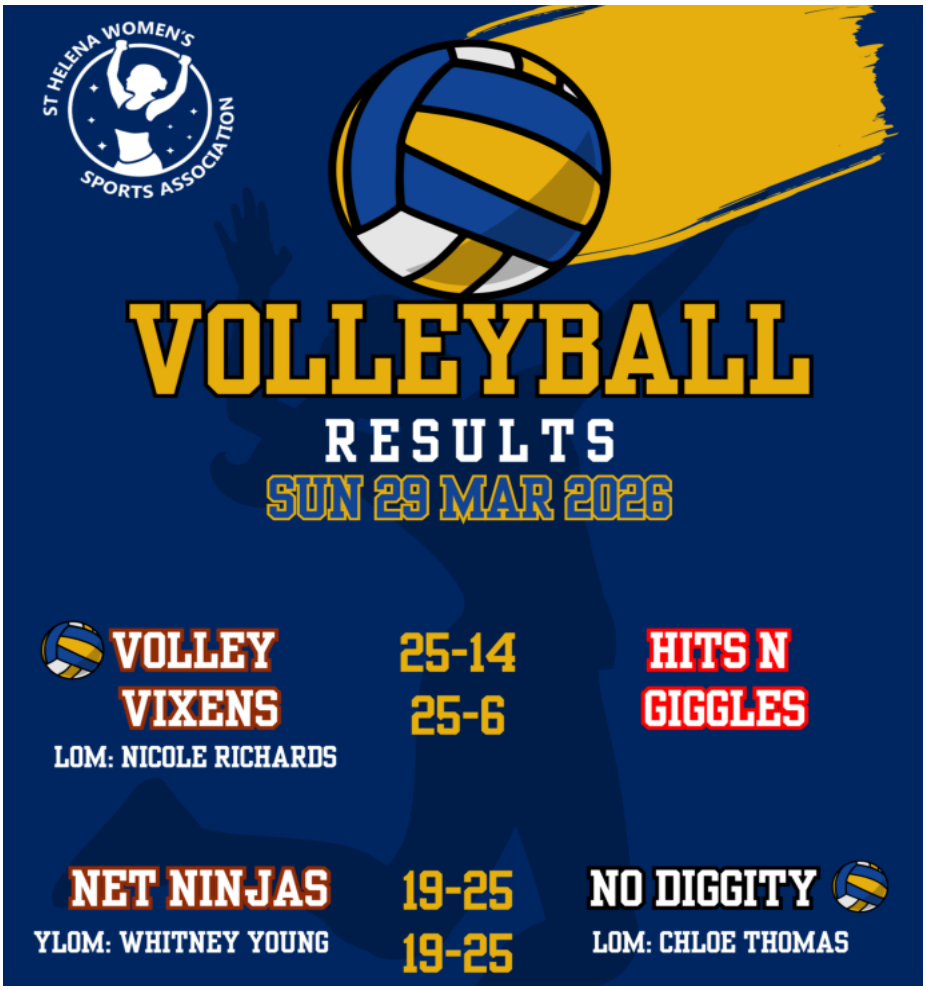
DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 5th April 2026 – Easter Sunday		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
9.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Andrew
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Helena
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 5th April 2026 – Easter Sunday		
6.00 a.m.	Vigil/Mass	St John
9.30 a.m.	Vigil/Mass	St James
11.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mary
	Thursday 9th April	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 5th April 2026 –Easter Sunday		
	Easter Sunday 5th April	
6.30 a.m.	Vigil/Mass	St Mark
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Matthew
	Tuesday 7th April 2026	
7.00 p.m.	Bible School on Wheels	St Mark

SPORTS ARENA

WSA Volley Ball League





Book of the Week

Public Library Service



Nettles and Petals by Jamie Walton

A compelling call to change the way we think about gardening and growing food, Nettles and Petals is the only guide you need to make your garden more sustainable.

Full of essential information and inviting imagery, this accessible guide provides a holistic and ecological approach to gardening and vegetable growing. With a focus on biodiversity, soil health, and the creation of balanced ecosystems, Nettles and Petals is a must-read for any budding gardener.

Join Social Media Influencer of the Year 2024 Jamie Walton and the @ NettlesAndPetals community on their mission to save the wild plants in our gardens and learn how to begin growing them in your spaces in a practical way.

Dig into must-know topics including:

- Companion planting
- The wonders of nettles and other weeds
- The importance of flowers in the vegetable garden
- Circular and ecological garden planning
- Growing guides for Jamie's 'top 30' vegetables
- Seed saving and sowing
- Urban and small-scale sustainable gardening
- Harvesting, preserving, and sharing produce

An ideal self-purchase or a gift for the green enthusiast in your life, Nettles and Petals is perfect for anyone curious about gardening sustainably.

Please reserve by contacting the following:-
Telephone Number: 22580
Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

Golf Report

Francis Fires to Victory in Foggy Showdown



Monthly Medal Winner, Arthur Francis



Monthly Medal Runner Up, Jeffrey Stevens

SHGC, Contributed

Fifteen determined golfers braved the island's moody mix of fog and light showers on Sunday as St Helena Golf Club delivered yet another thrilling competition. The cool, misty conditions may have dampened the fairways, but they certainly didn't dampen the spirits or the competitive fire of the field.

Rising above the pack in impressive style was Arthur Francis, who navigated the tricky weather with precision and composure to claim first place with an outstanding score of 69. Hot on his heels was Jeffrey Stevens, finishing just one stroke behind on 70, securing a well earned second place after a strong performance from tee to green.

Despite the enthusiastic turnout, the Two-Ball Pool remained untouched, with no successful claims this week. The balls returned to their owners.

Golfers are reminded that the next event will take place on Sunday, 5 April, featuring an 18 hole Stableford competition, with tee-off at 12 noon. Members are encouraged to arrive early and ready for action.

Meanwhile, the Club Committee extends appreciation to all who have already provided input on the Disciplinary Policy, currently out for consultation. Members who haven't yet done so are invited to submit their feedback while the window remains open.

As we wrap up an exciting weekend on the course, we wish all our members, supporters, and golfing friends a joyful and relaxing Easter weekend. May your swings be smooth, your putts be true, and your chocolate eggs plentiful!



SPORTS ARENA



The Tanzania team with their Winners trophy


St Helena Cricket made a donation to the Keep of the Streets Foundation which aims to keep children off the streets and into a safer environment


The tour gave the team an eye-opening insight into the struggles of life in the lesser known parts of Ghana



Team St Helena at the Tourist Information Centre in Jamestown, Accra


Team St Helena with children from the Keep of the Streets Foundation

through the area and into the life of the kids and the hardships they experience on a day-to-day basis" adding that the team "enjoyed the experience and it brought home to many the hardships that kids here in Ghana experience."

After a day of exploring, Team St Helena were back in action on Friday to take on the tough challenge of the host nation, Ghana. Having once again loss the toss, Team St Helena was sent to the crease first where they struggled to find any consistent battling partnerships and were eventually bowled out with the final ball of the innings for 77 runs. Jamie Essex and Jordi Henry top scored with 13 and 12 runs respectively.

In reply, Ghana were ruthless with the bat, reaching the total required runs within just the seventh over of the innings with some impressive batting, led by their opener, Jayant Gautam, who was named Player of the Match for hitting 44 runs off just 22 balls, including two sixes and seven fours along the way, and finishing not out. By the end, the two teams shook hands with Ghana walking away with the win by nine wickets.

Over to Saturday, when the task did not get easier for St Helena when they lined up against the tournament's most impressive team at that point, Tanzania. Opting to bat first, that Tanzanians played with devastating intent, finishing with a mammoth total of 236 runs four the loss of four after their 20 overs. Two of their batsmen finished on 63 runs, while another struck his way to 46, with a total of 23 boundaries between the three. Joey Thomas was St Helena's best bowler having taken two wickets.

In the reply, with an almost impossible task ahead of them, St Helena once again found runs difficult to come by with only two players reaching double figures; Jordi Henry impressed with 23 off 19, while Jamie Essex continued to be arguably St Helena's best performing batsman across the tournament, finishing with 16 runs off 14 balls. Despite their best efforts, St Helena were eventually bowled all out in the 19th over, by some impressive bowling from Tanzania, for 75 runs, with the tournament leaders taking the win by 161 runs.

Unfortunately for Team St Helena, unexpected stormy weather on Saturday evening meant that their final game of the tournament, against Malawi, was abandoned on Sunday, with both sides being awarded a point each. This was disappointing for the boys who were hoping to finish the tournament on a high with a win in their final game.

Nevertheless, and despite leaving Ghana without a win, St Helena's participation at the tournament allows for players to gain valuable experience and exposure and there will no doubt have been lessons learnt that should ensure St Helena comes back stronger and ready to chase qualification next time around.

At the closing ceremony, the Champions, Tanzania, lifted the trophy after an unbeaten campaign, with runners-up Ghana securing their spot in the Regional Final. Individual brilliance was celebrated with Tanzania's Augastin being named Best Batsmen, while their star with the ball, Barkania, won the Best Bowler award. The biggest individual honour of the night, the Tournament's MVP award, went to Tanzania's Selemani.

Team St Helena will now make their way back to the Island having proudly represented St Helena once again, and despite not achieving their goal of qualifying, they will do doubt arrive back to a hero's welcome after putting in hearty performances that garnered huge support from the community on-Island and abroad.

"I am immensely proud of this team that we have brought here to Ghana," commented Team Manager, Derek Richards, on Tuesday. "Yes, it's been a tough tournament, and yes, the results have been disappointing, but that has no reflection on the players as they played their hearts out."

Derek informed that a "tournament debrief" was planned for Wednesday morning, "but before we even go into that I will comment that we did very little wrong, the opposition just did it better," he added. "It clearly shows that even though we had a better preparation this time around, the teams we played against prepared on a turf surface for months before; and that's their regular circumstances."

Derek continued to example the match against Ghana, where he noted how "our more experienced batters faced bowling that they have never experienced before," adding that it is clear that "St Helena will be trailing the competition, as a number of factors are against us, not only the conditions but the stature of the players; most of them are contract players and play cricket for a living."

To conclude, Derek recognised that there are many things "for St Helena to aspire to" before describing the qualifiers as "a great tournament" overall. "The players and management were great ambassadors for the island, lots of friends were made along the way and its time now for us to reflect and reset for what lies ahead," he said.

Well done Team St Helena – we are all proud of you!



Aiden Leo with a delivery against Ghana



Andrew Yon plays a shot against Ghana



Jordan Yon and Barry Stroud walking away from the crease after their innings



Captain Cliff Richards with the Tanzania Captain



Rhys Francis put in a stellar bowling and fielding performance during the opening game against Eswatini



Delroy Leo in the field



Shaking hands with the Seychelles team

SPORTS ARENA

"We did very little wrong, the opposition just did it better"

Tanzania win ICC Qualifiers as Team St Helena keep spirits high despite disappointing losses, with Team Manager "immensely proud of this team"



Jamie Essex made the most runs for St Helena across the tournament

Liam Yon, SAMS

The ICC Men's T20 World Cup Sub Regional Africa Qualifier B has come to a close in Accra, Ghana, with Team St Helena walking away with a single point from an abandoned match on Sunday, after suffering disappointing losses in their other four matches despite hearty performances

Following the matches against Eswatini and Seychelles, where St Helena played valiantly but fell narrowly short of victory in both games, the team enjoyed a day off on Thursday, 26 March. What was planned as a quick visit to a fishing village in Accra, coincidentally named Jamestown, instead turned out to be a full day, highly enlightening, exposure visit, learning about the town's history, it's connection to St Helena through the slave trade, and gaining a deeper understanding of the struggles that exist for those living in the deepest parts of Ghana.

St Helena's cricket team, not for the first time during these tournaments, also carried out an honourable act of philanthropy while in Accra, making a donation to a worthy charity aimed at helping local children.

"St Helena Cricket has today made a donation to the Accra charity – Keep of the Streets Foundation" the SHCA reported last Thursday. "The teams tour of Jamestown by the Tourism Centre was undertaken by the charity motivator, who accepts any donations for his charity, which is currently supporting 70 kids up to the age of 15 in an attempt to keep them off the streets and into a safer environment."

They detail how "the tour took the team



Team St Helena at the Opening Ceremony