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SENTINEL

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The situation on St Helena remains "absolutely stable"

Latest on Andes Hantavirus situation as of 13 May 2026



Fixing Feeders

Connect St Helena give update on works to repair power supply faults on Feeders 3 and 5



OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Anita Robertse, SAMS

Similar to a previous comment of mine, I am taking a page from my son Erik's "book of wisdom". Ever so often he will share an insightful lesson that he came across while spending time on some social media platform that resonated with him. This particular quote was meant for Deon to use on his Wednesday morning show for his motivational minute, but I have decided instead to share it in my comment for this week.

The quote went something like this as paraphrased by myself... "If you spend your entire life chasing butterflies, you might end up catching only a few or even none at all. Instead if you spend your time cultivating a beautiful garden, the butterflies will come to you. Even if they do not, you will still be able to enjoy your beautiful garden."

You might now ask yourself what the application of this quote is? For me it definitely relates to spending our time to pursue things that we perceive as being desirable - something that will offer temporary enjoyment or rewards. Rather than spending all our energy and time to chase a fleeting desire, we should take the time to cultivate lasting beauty and value in our lives. This in turn might attract other positive things. To end the analogy though, even it does not have a knock-on effect, we will still be able to enjoy the results of the lasting positives that we invested in.

This could relate to anything from relationships, habits and daily routines as well as every other aspect of our lives. It might be necessary to take a step back and assess your life to re-prioritise what is important and what you should spend your time on.

I think we all feel overwhelmed at times and as if we do not have enough hours in a day to do all we have to do. Perhaps we need to step back from chasing butterflies and start cultivating a beautiful and lasting garden in our lives.

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

A response to Mr Westmoreland about observer status (Part 1)

I have read (and re-read several times) the letter by a Mr Ken Westmoreland in your edition of 30 April, for two reasons. (I toyed with placing his name in quotation marks, on the pretext that the Editor of the other paper jokingly wondered whether that was his real name, but I decided not to stoop to it: might make him even angrier.)

Firstly, I read his letter in the hope of finding a contribution on the merits (or demerits) of St Helena having an observer in the UK Parliament.

I did read (and re-read) many words, often long and/or apparently intended to intimidate others and/or me; anger about something, perhaps that another has commented in an area where he considers himself pre-eminent: a brief acknowledgement that one should not attack the character, motive, or some other attribute of the person making an argument rather than the substance of the argument itself, before doing precisely that himself, at length, in several places!

As for the subject, little or nothing, and certainly nothing that stands up to logical analysis, as I shall now demonstrate: (1) observers were suggested 150 years ago - so what?; (2) "few could see the point" - let me accept that for the purpose of advancing the discussion, but suggest that (a) the writer puts forward no evidence, his word is to suffice; and (b) if it were true, so what?, because (c) many reasons advanced for preserving the status quo over 150 years are no longer acceptable now (e.g., women's rights or lack of same); (3) "few would [see the point] now" - I answer (a) why observers are valuable is in giving "non-members ... an ability to participate in the organisation's activities" - that's a quote from my letter, which also referred to a full Wikipedia article on observer status in numerous contexts; (b) that was an article which the writer does not notice in his reply, perhaps because he could not see how to discredit it; and (c) in brief, to give a non-member of a decision-making body an opportunity to be aware of potential decisions which affect them in order and to influence those decisions, in the debating chamber or behind the scenes, is in the interests of all concerned, not only but not least the non-member; (4) the U. N. example is "is not a valid comparison" because it "is composed of diplomats, not democratically elected representatives" - I answer: (a) an irrelevant distinction, because a decision affecting someone is a decision affecting someone, irrespective of how those making it are chosen to do so; (b) incorrect, for the purpose for which the writer makes it, because the U. N.'s two chambers represent the views of all member states on many issues (the General Assembly) and of some on security issues (the Security Council).

Secondly, I read the letter in the interest of seeing what the writer had to say about me, because, (1) yes, one shouldn't fall for "whataboutism" either - there's a good article about that in Wikipedia too, Mr Westmoreland: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whataboutism, but (b) it means responding to an assertion ("observes good") with a counter-accusation (see below) instead of offering an explanation or defence against the original assertion, in order to avoid answering the assertion; but (2) let's face it, I'm as silly and vain as anyone else, but not as irascible as Mr Westmoreland.

Can you wait until a future issue to learn my shameful secrets that caused me to hide behind "Lucky Thomson"?

Regards,

Lucky (er, Russell James, actually) Thomson

Notice to Advertisers

Due to next week's public holiday on 21 May for St Helena's Day, The Sentinel will be published a day earlier on Wednesday, 20 May. Because of this, our deadline for adverts and submissions for next week's paper will be **4pm on Monday, 19 May**. As always, adverts must be sent to news@sams.sh by the deadline in order to be published in The Sentinel.

Thank you always,
South Atlantic Media Services Ltd

YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

Taking Parenting Seriously for the Future of Our Island

I have wanted to write this letter for some time. I have delayed, perhaps too long. But I do not wish to find myself on the wrong side of history for remaining silent when I ought to have spoken. Although I have raised these concerns before, at constituency meetings and at PTA AGMs, I believe the time has come to appeal more broadly to us as parents and guardians.

I write as a parent of a student at St Helena Secondary School, and as a member of a community I deeply care about. My concern is simple, but weighty: the kind of children we are raising on this island, and the role we as parents are playing—or failing to play—in that process.

Parenting is one of the most important responsibilities on this planet, yet it is often underestimated. For most jobs, there are minimum requirements before one is even shortlisted for an interview. Yet many of us become parents while completely unprepared for what that responsibility truly entails. Our reference point is usually how we were raised. If we liked it, we repeat it. If we did not, we often swing to the opposite extreme. Others, regrettably, appear not to engage seriously at all, believing that the government—through schools, safeguarding and social care—will somehow raise their children for them.

That should never be the case.

Over time, parents have been allowed, and sometimes encouraged, to take a back seat in their own children's behaviour and upbringing. I do not claim to be a "super parent" myself. Far from it. That is precisely why I make a conscious effort to improve by reading, attending talks, and seeking guidance wherever possible. Parenting is not instinct alone; it is a skill that requires learning, reflection and consistency.

The future of this island does not ultimately depend on the amount of aid we receive. It depends on the quality of people we raise. Families build communities; communities build nations. If we fail to raise responsible, disciplined and respectful human beings, we place our collective future in jeopardy.

Some of us, uncomfortable as it may sound, are contributing to the very lawlessness we complain about. Take simple examples. School policy clearly states that mobile phones are not allowed at school. Yet parents buy phones for their children and permit them to take them to school. The school knows. The children know. There are no real consequences. Or consider uniform standards. When children refuse to tuck in shirts or wear uniform correctly, instead of insisting on compliance, we dilute expectations or change the uniform entirely to avoid conflict.

I have attended awards days where a child, unkempt, trousers sagging and shirt hanging loose, steps onto the podium to receive an award. And we - parents, teachers and officials applaud. How can we fail to see the problem? What message does this send to other children? If a child cannot meet basic standards of presentation at a formal school event, should they really be paraded as an example before the whole school? We are the adults. Who, then, is calling the shots in our community?

How are we preparing our children for the world beyond our island. Where laws must be complied with, and where non-compliance carries consequences?

Any system that treats parents or guardians as mere spectators when behavioural issues arise is fundamentally flawed. In whose house do these children sleep? Who clothes them? Who feeds them? To sideline that person is to undermine the very authority required to raise a child well.

My appeal is straightforward: parents and guardians must take this responsibility with the seriousness it deserves. Where we feel ill-equipped, help is readily available in this information age. Let us also discourage young people from rushing into parenthood before they are ready, and mentor them towards responsibility before they take on a role that shapes another human life.

As a final point, I view the school as a factory: every pound spent, to buy paint for the wall, every litre of diesel used for school transport, and every salary paid is an input. We must expect measurable outputs. We should be able to see academic results clearly, compared year on year. A former acting Director of Education once described education on St Helena as "an engine of decline." That narrative must change. We should expect internationally competitive results from our only secondary school, but that journey begins at home. When behaviour is reinforced in families, teachers are free to do what they are trained to do: teach.

The future of St Helena rests, more than anything else, on the quality of our parenting. Let us rise to that responsibility for our children, and for the island they will inherit.

Yours sincerely,

Bramwell Bushuru

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article about Patsy Flagg's House as I first visited it in 1966 when the elderly lady, Mrs Gilles, lived there.

I met Mrs Gilles when the house was like a jungle as she was growing so many plants on the veranda! John Noakes normally cared for the expatriate community but he was on leave, so I was asked to call on her.

Ron Charlton was the lab technician and coroner at the time. He and Arnold were very keen snorkel fishers as the photograph shows!

Please give my regards to Patsy as I knew her and Arnold at the time

Regards,

Richard Grainger



ST HELENA NEWS

Situation on St Helena "absolutely stable"

Latest on Andes Hantavirus situation as of 13 May 2026

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government continues to respond to the situation regarding the outbreak of Andes Hantavirus onboard expedition vessel, MV Hondius, liaising with partners in the UK Health Security Agency and other health authorities, including the World Health Organisation who leads on the global response.

Globally, according to verified information by the World Health Organisation, there have been eight cases of hantavirus, of which six have been confirmed and two are probable. The number of deaths remain at three; the index patient who passed onboard the vessel on 11 April (probable case), his wife who passed in Johannesburg on 26 April after a flight from St Helena (confirmed case), and a further female passenger who passed onboard the vessel on 2 May (confirmed case).

As confirmed by Dr Jake from the Health Portfolio during Monday's update on SAMS Radio 1, all of the verified and confirmed cases so far have been directly related to the MV Hondius, through either a passenger or crew member. No one who was not either a passenger or crew member of the MV Hondius have been confirmed as having the Andes Hantavirus, with a few people identified as 'close contacts' – including a flight attendant on the flight from St Helena – having tested negative for hantavirus.

On St Helena, there continues to be zero cases of hantavirus and zero suspected cases, while no one among the 22 identified as 'higher risk' in self-isolation have developed any symptoms, with all reported to be doing well. Dr Jake described the situation on St Helena as "absolutely stable" during the latest interview update on SAMS Radio 1.

Across the territory, there remains one possible case on Tristan da Cunha, though this has not been confirmed as hantavirus. The person in question was a passenger onboard the MV Hondius before returning to Tristan where he resides, hence why this was categorised as a suspected case when he began to feel unwell and develop symptoms. Due to the remoteness of Tristan, along with the need to provide precautionary support to the Island in relation to this suspected case, the UK's Armed Forces conducted an airdrop of both supplies and personnel to the Island over the weekend, demonstrating their commitment to providing humanitarian aid and support to all of the UK and its territories. This incredible act of humanitarian aid has received high praise. According to the latest information from SHG at the time of writing, "the individual on Tristan remains stable and is showing signs of improvement."

On Ascension, there has been a recent development, as reported by SHG late on Tuesday. "We understand that a high-risk contact in Ascension has developed symptoms consistent with hantavirus," they informed, before adding that "initial testing for hantavirus was negative, from samples shipped to the United Kingdom, but further investigations are ongoing."

It was confirmed that "this individual is part of a group of medical personnel on Ascension Island who had close contact with a confirmed case and had already been assessed as higher risk." SHG added that, "as a precaution, plans are in place for their relocation."

SHG also revealed that "a family member of this contact travelled to St Helena on Sunday 10 May" before adding that "this family member is not suspected to have been infected with hantavirus but has been asked to enter isolation as a precaution until the full testing results and details of the situation are confirmed." Dr Jake, during the latest interview update, confirmed that this family member has since been ruled out as a contact. "I'm happy to say that we were able to exclude that family member as a contact of hantavirus," he said. "That person who's developed symptoms (on Ascension) did so after their last known contact with this person (the family member), so there's absolutely no opportunity, if this turns out to be hantavirus, which we don't know it is, there's no opportunity that they could have passed that to the person who was flown here."

With regards to the situation on Ascension, and the family member that was flown to St Helena, SHG asserted that "there is currently no indication of any additional risk to the wider population in St Helena as a result of this development."

On St Helena, in terms of the precautionary measures being taken, additional support and supplies arrived over the weekend to ensure the Island is as prepared as possible to deal with any cases that could arise, despite Health Officials continuing to assert that the likelihood of a case of hantavirus on St Helena remains extremely low and is not expected to happen.

As detailed by SHG, three additional medical staff arrived to the island, comprising an infection prevention and control specialist and two laboratory scientists, along with 14 boxes of medical kit and supplies. They were however clear that this does not indicate a change in circumstances on the Island. "We still consider the risk to the wider community to be very low," they said. "As we have stated throughout, we continue to plan with an abundance of caution given the potential medical consequences, should a case be confirmed."

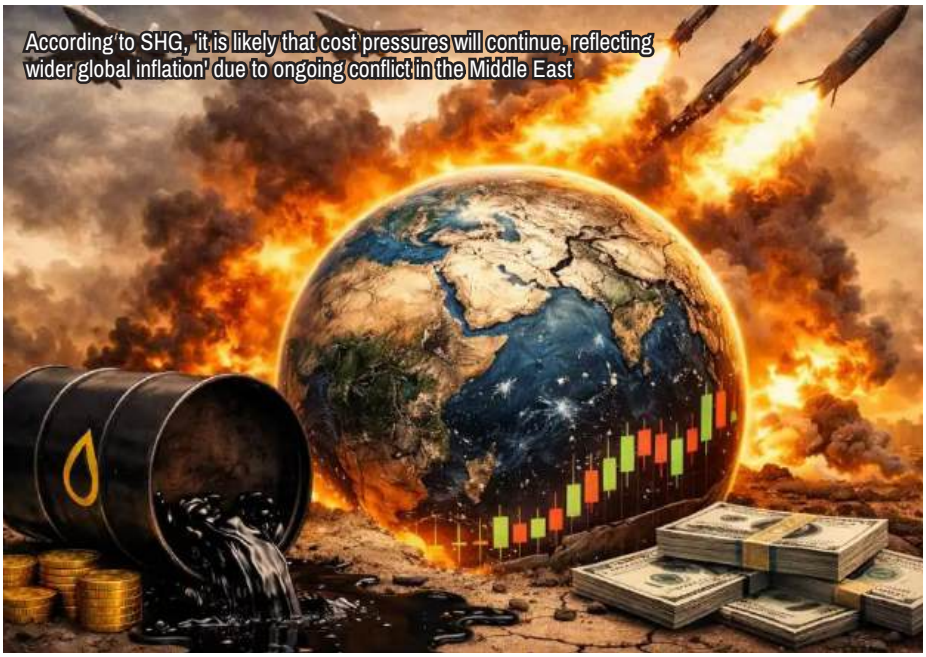
Governor Phillips also confirmed the arrival of two UK military planners to the Island on Saturday. He informed how "they will support ongoing response work and develop contingency options for any further assistance that may be required from the UK military or wider Government," adding that "this is prudent forward planning."

Another development having arose is the relocation of persons identified as "higher risk" on both St Helena and Ascension. A number of these 'close contacts' on Ascension have already been relocated to their countries of origin to continue their isolation, while others from Ascension, including the recent person showing symptoms, along with the four Tristanians on St Helena who were passengers onboard the vessel, will be relocated to the UK soon. This is said to be simply precautionary, with these individuals being closer to better health support were they to develop symptoms during the remainder of their isolation.

For now, the message remains that the threat of hantavirus on St Helena remains low but that the Island will be prepared if there is a case. Persons in self-isolation were thanked for their important role in protecting the Island, while members of the public were again encouraged to use SHG's updates and interviews on SAMS as the trusted official source for information and to avoid speculation via other unverified sources. All interviews, including the latest held on Wednesday, is available via the SAMS Podcast page.

The Domino Effect

SHG issue advice on food, fuel and energy use, despite asserting that there is "no immediate risk" to the availability of commodities on St Helena due to ongoing global conflicts



According to SHG, 'it is likely that cost pressures will continue, reflecting wider global inflation' due to ongoing conflict in the Middle East

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government continues to assess the potential and likely effect of current global conflicts on St Helena, particularly in relation to the availability of commodities, including fuel and food, and rising prices.

"Global developments, including ongoing tensions between the United States and Iran in the Middle East, continue to evolve," they noted in a recent press release. "As with previous international events such as COVID 19 and the conflict in Ukraine, these circumstances can contribute to availability and rising costs of food, fuel and other commodities worldwide," they recognised.

With this known, SHG have been keeping a close eye on developments and what it could mean for St Helena, where they ascertained that while there is no "immediate risk" to the Island, cost pressures globally are likely to continue.

"At present, assessments of the situation on the island do not indicate any immediate risk to the availability of food, fuel, or access to St Helena," they revealed. "Supplies are continuing as planned, and there are no concerns about shortages at this time. However, it is likely that cost pressures will continue, reflecting wider global inflation."

Despite SHG expressing "no concerns about shortages" at this current time, they did feel it necessary to provide advice and "practical steps" to the public on how they can support long-term sustainability in the wake of potential shortages and rising costs that could likely arise.

"As an isolated island community, our resilience is strengthened when we all take practical steps to use resources thoughtfully and responsibly," they said. "Simple actions can help reduce pressure and support long term sustainability."

As such, SHG encourages residents to "be mindful of energy use," such as switching off lights and appliances when not in use; "reducing reliance on imported meats, fruit and vegetables" by buying more local produce and growing small amounts of produce at home; "using fuel efficiently" through car sharing and the avoidance of unnecessary journeys; while also "supporting local producers and businesses by buying local where possible."

SHG recognised these "simple actions" as "voluntary measures that many people already follow," before adding that, "together, they can make a positive difference."

To conclude their press release, SHG advised that "the situation continues to be closely monitored, and the public will be kept informed of any significant changes," through official SHG channels.



Fixing Feeders

Connect St Helena give update on works to repair power supply faults on Feeders 3 and 5



Liam Yon, SAMS

Since the start of last week, Connect St Helena have been working on various power supply issues that caused a number of prolonged power outages across the Island, with work continuing this week to address faults identified on Feeder 5, supplying Lower Jamestown, and Feeder 3, specifically the supply to residents of Deadwood.

In an update on Monday, Connect advised on the progress of restoration works on Feeder 5, with two planned outages scheduled for last Sunday proceeding as planned. They informed how "works progressed well throughout the day, with cable termination successfully completed between the Post Office and Nosegay Lane transformers." Thus, they confirmed that "power has now been restored to all customers supplied by these transformers, and all customers on Feeder 5 now have their electricity supply restored."

Due to these repairs requiring significant trenching works at Market Street, Connect went on to advise that "backfilling of the trenching works is now complete" with "further resurfacing works" said to continue throughout Monday in order to complete road reinstatement works.

In a further update on Wednesday morning, Connect advised that "road reinstatement works are progressing well," adding that "backfilling of trenching works is now complete, and resurfacing is nearing completion." They note how "construction materials have also been cleared from the surrounding areas," and that "as part of this progress, Nosegay Lane and Narra Backs will reopen to vehicular traffic this afternoon, around midday."

Connect also informed of a further planned power outage on Wednesday, 13 May, in order "to safely complete the remaining works and normalise Feeders 1 and 5." Originally scheduled for Monday, the outage that was moved to Wednesday, was scheduled to take effect from 4pm affecting the Mantis Hotel, the Post Office Transformer, and





the Nosegay Lane Transformer. Then, from 4.30pm, the outage extended to affect all of Lower Jamestown, covering the entire Feeder 5 area and also a section of Feeder 1, which extends to Ladder Hill. This outage was scheduled to last until 7pm.

Turning their attention to Feeder 3, specifically the fault affecting customers in Deadwood, Connect advised on Monday how they had "successfully transferred some customers to the Blackfield network to reduce the load on the generator," adding that "this was necessary to ensure all Deadwood residents remained connected while permanent repairs continue."

Connect did recognise that during last Sunday's "peak demand" period, the generator they had been using "failed due to overload," which they described as "unfortunate" and therefore, on Sunday evening, they thus "installed a higher-capacity generator to provide the required power supply at Deadwood."

When updating on the permanent repair works for Feeder 3, they advised how "following the curing of the concrete foundation supporting the pole, the new transformer will be installed with proper LV feeder arrangements, and the HV and LV lines transferred to the new pole and transformer arrangement." At the time, they were not certain on when these works would be carried out, however they confirmed that "a planned power outage on Feeder 3 will be required" for this to happen.

In the update on Wednesday, Connect noted how their team "continues to plan works to transfer consumers from generator supply to the new transformer and to restore power safely and systematically."

They detailed how a site visit would be conducted on Wednesday "to finalise plans for the work scheduled for Thursday." Looking ahead, they informed of "a planned outage on Feeder 3" on Friday morning, which they say is "required to transfer power lines to the new pole and transformer arrangement." They add that "following the transfer, customers currently supplied by the generator will be connected to the transformer. Specific timings for the power outages will be confirmed in a further update."

Wednesday's update also indicated that works on Feeder 3 would require more time than originally foreseen, with Connect advising how "works will continue into next week on the low-voltage lines to ensure a balanced load on the transformer" and that "this stage is expected to take several days to complete, and the outage plan will be confirmed in a later update."

Connect concluded their update by once again apologising to customers "for the ongoing disruption" and thanking them "for their patience and understanding" while Connect's teams "continue to carry out these essential restoration works safely."

During Tuesday's Formal LegCo session, Elected Members expressed gratitude to the staff of both Connect St Helena and SURE SA Ltd for their work, including outside of normal working hours and in unfavourable conditions, to reinstate services to the community. The Sentinel echoes this and would also like to say a thank you to all involved.



"Inviting," but not yet open

HTH Playground Project progressing well, though "remains an active construction area"



Liam Yon, SAMS

Work continues to progress by local contractor, AC's Multi-skill Contractors, supported by residents of HMP Jamestown, on the current Playgrounds Project funded by the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) to upgrade and revitalise playgrounds at both Longwood Green and in Half Tree Hollow.

While new equipment and amenities have already been installed at Longwood Green, opened for use by the public prior to Easter, works to Half Tree Hollow continues, with SHG reminding the public that, although work is progressing well, HTH Playground remains closed for use until the full completion of works.

"The public are reminded that the playground site at Half Tree Hollow remains an active construction area as part of the ongoing EDIP Playgrounds Project," they recently announced in a public notice, adding the "the public are asked to stay outside of visible development areas and strictly adhere to site signage."

Noting the progress being made so far, SHG informed how the contractor and prisoners have been "diligently working to timely install the equipment, in all weather conditions," before adding that "the continued support and cooperation of the community is appreciated as the project progresses towards completion."

SHG shared two photographs with their release (as pictured) showing new playground equipment installed on the upper terrace of the HTH Playground along with children's outdoor gym equipment, recently installed on the middle terrace. They add that "still to be installed is synthetic safety grass beneath the existing swing frames (and swings/chains fitted) and climbing frame."

SHG concluded by noting that "whilst equipment may appear inviting to use, the public (children) are requested to wait for a further announcement, when the playground is completed and equipment is safe to use."





Arnold Crowie, Director of AC's Multi-skill Contractors, has been carrying out works at both Longwood Green and HTH Playground

Hit me with your best shot!

Second round for first dose of MMR Vaccinations next week



Donna Crowie, SAMS

Amongst many others, Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) is listed as one of the most contagious viral infections. Back in 1989, St Helena was first introduced to a vaccine to prevent the spread of such a contagious infection.

Over 30 years later and measles is still considered the number one most highly contagious infection, with mumps as the fifth. With this knowledge, the Health and Social Care portfolio is encouraging the public to get the MMR vaccination to help in "protecting yourself and the wider community from MMR."

The Portfolio held initial MMR vaccination clinics in April and, so far, 1,417 people have received either a first or second dose of the vaccination. In moving forward, a second round of MMR vaccinations are due to roll out next week, this time for those who wish to receive their first dose.

Starting from Monday, 18 May, through to Wednesday, 20 May, vaccination clinics will be held for residents of Half Tree Hollow (at the Community Care Centre); Longwood (at the Harford Community Centre); and lastly, Jamestown (at the Jamestown Community Centre), respectively from 10am to 2pm.

H&SC is also willing to support Island residents who may be housebound, with individuals requested to contact the Health Promotion Team to make the necessary arrangements.





The Fuel-iful Truth

Will the ongoing war affect St Helena fuel prices?



Donna Crowie, SAMS

During a recent Northward Sounds programme, presented by Tony Leo on SAMS Radio 1, Tony spoke to Dax Richards, Financial Secretary for St Helena Government, on whether the current and ongoing conflict in the Middle East will have an effect on St Helena's fuel supply and, importantly, fuel costs.

For many years now, Solomon and Company (St Helena) Plc have handled the management of fuel supply on the Island, including the Bulk Fuel Installation at Rupert's and the ordering of fuel. SHG do however work closely with Solomon's with regards to island fuel supply, which we receive from Namibia via regular visits from fuel tankers each year.

With fuel shortages affecting many countries around the world, Dax noted how on St Helena, we are currently not being affected due to a recent fuel consignment. "At the moment we have secured the supply of fuel which takes us through until sometime in early August," he explained. "There are however ongoing discussions now around the impacts of the war in the Middle East and what that is likely to do to the price of fuel here on St Helena."

With the last batch of fuel which arrived in March likely to last until approximately August this year, the next order of fuel will be made either this month or June. "We are keeping a very close eye on what's happening on the world price of fuel, because that impacts on what it will mean for the price at the pump and also for our wholesale customers of the bulk fuel installation," asserted Dax.

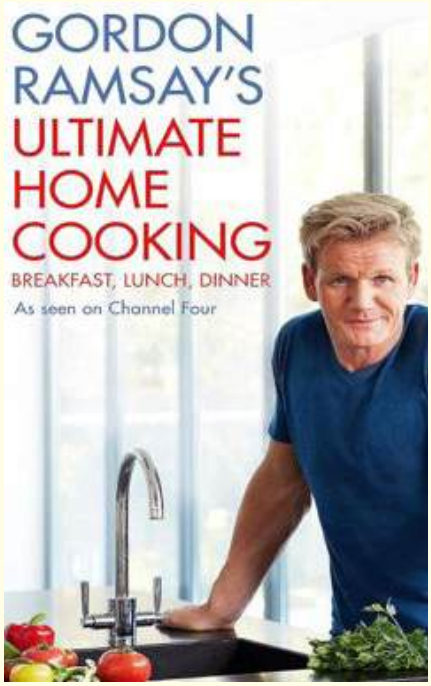
In terms of fuel storage, Dax noted how diesel storage has increased quite significantly on the Island in recent times, which he states will help with the overall price per litre. "Our storage was increased to the latter part of last year, early this year, when we reinstated the three tanks in Rupert's," he detailed. "That almost doubled our storage for diesel capacity compared to where we were a year ago, which helps with the overall price per litre when it arrives here on the island."

Currently, the new Bulk Fuel Installation in Rupert's, which often attracts criticism due the length of time it is taking to commission the facility alongside the significant amount of funds that have been spent on it, is still not in operation; though, according to Dax, progress on this is expected soon. "It's about to commence shortly; the commissioning of the new BFI in upper Rupert's Valley and elements of the lower Rupert's Valley as well," he revealed, before reaffirming that SHG's aim "is to get the new BFI sorted," as a matter of priority. "When that comes online, you would probably only need a tanker to visit once a year at the most because of the volume of fuel that we'll be able to store," he added.

As is common knowledge now, global conflicts, particularly in the Middle East, have had a negative impact on the availability, and the price, of jet fuel, with shortages and significant price hikes in jet fuel being experienced globally. In terms of the fuel supply, Dax noted how "we are expecting on the next ship, when it arrives, we will have sufficient supplies that will take us through to November time," adding that, "we are less worried about the aviation." He did however make clear that, "of course, the price of the aviation fuel has increased by 140% since the start of the conflict; so that will have an impact on SHG's budget in terms of the cost of flights to and from St Helena."

Book of the Week

Public Library Service



Ultimate Home Cooking
by Gordon Ramsay's

Gordon Ramsay's Ultimate Home Cooking is a collection of over 120 delicious new recipes that are infused with Gordon's expertise and skill gleaned from his years in professional kitchens. Divided into chapters to see you through the whole day from weekday breakfasts through to Saturday night dinners, the book is all about the pleasure of cooking and sharing the very best home-cooked food with family and friends.

Please reserve by contacting the following:
Telephone Number: 22580
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Press Release

EHRC Welcomes Amendments to Civil Litigation (Costs) Ordinance and Highlights Impact of Landmark Judicial Review Action.



The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has welcomed amendments to the Civil Litigation (Costs) Ordinance 2025, which provide a significant improvement in guaranteeing access to justice in St Helena.

The Ordinance was the subject of a Judicial Review brought by the EHRC and this action led directly to legislative reform. The Commission considers the amendments a major achievement, which demonstrates the important role the EHRC plays in protecting the human rights of everyone living here.

The Ordinance clarifies circumstances under which After-the-Event (ATE) insurance, necessary to cover expert's costs, can be recovered by individual claimants in personal injuries case, including those of medical negligence. This outcome represents real and meaningful change.

Chief Executive, Catherine Turner stated:

"The EHRC initiating these proceedings, using the power to bring legal cases in its own name for the first time. We are in no doubt that the necessary amendments are a result of the Commission's intervention. We commend the positive steps taken by government to address human rights violations and improve access to justice for everyone living in St Helena."

The EHRC notes the positive outcome in this case, but it remains concerned with the limited scope of the legislative amendments. Further work is now required to ensure similar protection is extended beyond personal injury claims. The EHRC continues to advise government therefore on the need to fully consider wider access to justice issues in civil litigation cases and it will seek to engage with the government on this matter on behalf of everyone in St Helena.

Acknowledgements

The EHRC extends its sincere thanks to those who supported this important case. In particular, the Commission acknowledges the expertise and dedication of Solicitor **Darragh Mackin** of Phoenix Law, and Counsel **Naomi Hart** of Essex Court Chambers and **Cliodhna Kelleher of** Monckton Chambers, whose work was instrumental in achieving this outcome.

The Island Pulse

Tackling Power, Public Health and Community Progress



Communications Champion Cllr Julie Thomas, Contributed

Listeners tuning into this week's *The Island Pulse* on SAMS Radio 1 were met with a packed programme that reflected many of the issues currently shaping life across St Helena - from island-wide power outages and public health concerns to food security, improved public access to elected representatives, and mental health awareness initiatives.

Hosted by Councillor Julie Thomas, the programme brought together all seven District Councillors for what she described as "an ambitious line-up" focused on the issues most frequently raised by the public.

Power Outages Spark Calls for Long-Term Planning

A major portion of the discussion centred on the recent electricity disruptions experienced across Jamestown, Deadwood, Alarm Forest and other districts.



Although Connect Saint Helena Ltd CEO Roeland van der Hoeven had been expected to appear on the programme, he was unable to attend due to ongoing operational pressures linked to the outages. Councillors confirmed he is expected to join next week's programme to discuss the company's strategic direction, challenges facing the electricity grid, and plans to stabilise services.

Councillors from across the island praised the efforts of utility workers, with repeated recognition given to staff from Connect St Helena and Sure South Atlantic Ltd for working extended hours in difficult weather and hazardous conditions.

Jamestown representative Corinda Essex acknowledged the disruption caused to businesses, meetings, traffic and daily life, but said the public largely recognised that crews were "*putting 100% effort*" into restoring services.

Councillor Derek Thomas raised concerns about infrastructure maintenance, particularly following the deterioration of a utility pole in Deadwood which left some residents without electricity for several days.

"*There ought to be some plans possibly utilising private sector as well*," he said, suggesting greater collaboration with contractors and businesses during future emergencies.

Councillor Clint Beard noted that private contractors had in fact assisted during the Jamestown repairs, calling the response "*one of those positive stories that the island needs*".

The discussion also highlighted broader concerns about resilience planning, future investment and renewable energy. Councillors stressed the importance of receiving clear information ahead of the upcoming Budget Session expected next month, particularly regarding the level of government subsidy provided to Connect St Helena and the island's long-term energy strategy.

Councillor Robert Midwinter added that residents remain concerned about potential damage to household appliances caused by repeated power surges.

The panel agreed that once the immediate crisis subsides, lessons learned from the outages should be formally reviewed through the St Helena Resilience Forum.

Hantavirus Concerns Continue to Dominate Public Discussion

The programme then turned to the ongoing public concern surrounding the Hantavirus situation connected to the visit of the cruise vessel *MV Hondius*.

Councillors acknowledged that anxiety remains high both locally and among St Helenians overseas, particularly following confirmation that the virus involved is the Andes strain of Hantavirus - a variant known to allow limited person-to-person transmission.

Councillors repeatedly stressed that they themselves have largely received the same information as the public through official press releases and media briefings.

"*We can only share with the public what has been shared with us*," said Councillor Midwinter, who encouraged residents to rely on official sources and avoid misinformation circulating online.

Several Councillors voiced frustration about the speed and depth of communication being provided to elected members, particularly regarding rumours linked to Ascension Island and reports that medical personnel may have been transferred overseas as a precautionary measure.

Councillor Denis Leo questioned why speculation had been allowed to grow in the absence of direct clarification, while Councillor Beard remarked: "The more we are sure, less assumption will develop."

The Councillors confirmed that, as of the programme recording on Monday 11 May, there were no confirmed cases of Hantavirus on Ascension Island and no individuals showing symptoms there.

Councillor Essex also described confusion caused by international media reports that incorrectly implied there was a confirmed case on St Helena itself, when in fact references were being made to the wider St Helena group of islands.

The panel agreed that future communication processes need to improve, particularly during fast-moving public health situations.

Questions Continue Over Fish Investigation

Food security and consumer confidence were another major talking point as Councillors discussed the ongoing investigation into histamine fish poisoning.

Councillor Beard said residents remain concerned that the dates published in earlier public warnings may not accurately reflect the products involved. He warned that public confidence in locally available fish products needs to be rebuilt quickly.

"*It's important that fish is okay to eat*," he said, noting that uncertainty is affecting purchasing habits.

Councillor Leo revealed that elected members had met with individuals connected to the fishing sector who came forward with concerns about food safety practices. He stressed that their motivation was to protect the public rather than target individuals or businesses.

Meanwhile, Councillor Midwinter questioned whether current inspection frequencies at fish processing facilities are sufficient, noting that evidence given previously to Select Committee 1 suggested some inspections occur only annually unless export products are involved.

Councillor Julie Thomas highlighted growing frustration about the length of time investigations are taking and the lack of timely outcomes.

"*There are some people who are now concerned as to whether they should be consuming fish, which is a really sad thing because fish is seen as a staple part of our diet here on St Helena*," she said.

At the same time, Councillors were careful to reassure the public that many local fishermen continue to handle and supply fish responsibly.

New Legislative Council Offices Mark "Step in the Right Direction"

In more positive news, Councillors shared details of their move into new office accommodation at the former Customs building in Jamestown.

The relocation marks a significant improvement from the previously cramped facilities within the Castle courtyard.

Councillor Derek Thomas praised the collaborative effort involved in the move, thanking prison staff, prisoners, local businesses and council staff for assisting over the weekend.

The new premises are fully accessible and include private meeting spaces for Councillors to speak confidentially with constituents.

Councillor Midwinter said the move also represents an important milestone in strengthening the separation between the Executive and Legislative branches of government, following recommendations made in previous governance reviews.

Councillors are now exploring the possibility of converting part of the building into a future Council Chamber with improved public accessibility.

Mental Health Awareness Events Encouraged

The programme concluded on a community-focused note, with Councillor Ronald Coleman highlighting activities planned for Mental Health Awareness Week and Month.

Working alongside the Island Minds Foundation, several events are being organised across the island, including community walks, yoga sessions and fundraising activities.

Residents are also being encouraged to wear green in support of mental health awareness.

Councillor Leo announced plans for a "Man Cave" evening at the Jamestown Community Centre later this month (22 May 2026), aimed at encouraging men to socialise, reconnect and openly support one another's wellbeing through games, conversation and camaraderie.

The programme also briefly recognised the recent Agriculture Day hosted by the Harper's Training Centre, which is an arm of the St Helena Secondary School curriculum, with Councillors praising students and staff for their work and fresh produce displays.

As the hour closed, one theme remained consistent throughout the discussion - the importance of communication, transparency and community resilience during periods of uncertainty.

With formal Legislative Council sessions soon to follow, many of the issues raised on The Island Pulse are expected to continue dominating public debate in the weeks ahead.





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. May 15

- 7am - 9am: Sunrise Show with Luke Bennett
- 1:30pm: St Helena Secondary School
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (Repeat)

SAT. May 16

- 9am-11: Indie Waves with Sue (Repeat)
- 11pm: Northward Sounds
- 3:30-5pm: Modern Country Chart with Anita (Repeat)
- 5pm: In the know (repeat)
- 6pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 8:30pm: Out Out (repeat)

SUN. May 17

- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Luke Bennett
- 1pm: Interview Hour
- 3-4:30pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 5pm: Island Pulse (repeat)
- 7pm: Anglican church Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations with Anita

MON. May 18

- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 9am: Public Accounts Committe
- 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. May 19

- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 10am: Ministers Question Time
- 11am: Vibes with Anita
- 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. May 20

- 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. May 21

- 7am - 10am: Sunrise with Liam & Luke
- 3-5pm: Vibes with Anita (repeat)
- 5-7pm: Modern Country Chart with Donna
- 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



Back to Back 'live' broadcasting.

On Monday from 9am the Public Accounts Committee will be back in the Chambers for their second sitting.

Not forgeting Ministers Question time on Tuesday from 10am.

So remember to tune in to SAMS Radio 1 to hear the proceedings 'live' and first-hand from the Council Chamber!

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

Sentinel Sudoku Session

This week's difficulty is 'Expert'

See solution to last week's Sudoku Puzzle:

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

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

Throwback Thursday



14th May 1673:
400 English troops sail into Prosperous Bay, aiming to retake the island from the Dutch. They succeed the following day.

(sainthelenaisland.info)

Apparently, the month of May is known as "No Meat May" - so why not try this vegetable dish from the Hairy Bikers!

Veggie Shepherd's Pie



Ingredients For the filling

- 1 tbsp oil
- 1 leek, finely chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and finely chopped
- 150g/5½oz mushrooms, roughly chopped
- 1 large garlic clove, finely chopped
- 3 fresh sage leaves, roughly chopped
- 3 fresh thyme sprigs, leaves only, finely chopped
- 400g tin lentils, drained
- 400g tin chopped tomatoes
- 200ml/7fl oz vegetable stock
- 200ml/7fl oz red wine
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce (optional)
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp chilli flakes (optional)
- 1 tsp caster sugar (optional)
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

For the topping

- 2 sweet potatoes (about 500g/1lb 2oz in total), peeled and cut into 2cm chunks
- 2 potatoes (about 500g/1lb 2oz in total), peeled and cut into 2cm chunks
- ½ small cauliflower, leaves and root removed, separated into florets
- knob of unsalted butter
- 1 tbsp finely grated Parmesan (optional)
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

1. To make the filling, heat the oil in a frying pan over a medium heat. Add the leek and fry for 4–5 minutes, or until beginning to soften.
2. Stir in the carrots, mushrooms and garlic. Cook, stirring regularly, for 4–5 minutes.
3. Add the sage, thyme, lentils, tomatoes, stock and red wine and stir until well combined. Bring the mixture to the boil, then reduce the heat until it is simmering and continue to simmer for 18–20 minutes while you make the topping.
4. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
5. To make the topping, bring a large saucepan of water to the boil (there's no need to add salt). Add the sweet potato and potato and boil for 10–12 minutes. Add the cauliflower and boil for a further 8–10 minutes, or until tender.
6. Drain the vegetables well and return them to the pan. Add the butter, season well with salt and pepper, then mash until smooth. Set aside and keep warm.
7. For the filling, stir in the Worcestershire sauce (if using), soy sauce, chilli flakes (if using) and sugar (if using). The filling should have thickened during cooking. Continue to simmer for a further 1–2 minutes, adding a little water if the mixture is too dry (simmer for longer if the mixture is too watery). Season with salt and pepper.
8. Transfer the filling mixture to an ovenproof baking dish, then spoon over the topping and spread into an even layer. If you like a crispy topping, create peaks in the mash using a fork. Sprinkle over the Parmesan, if using.
9. Bake the shepherd's pie in the oven for 18–20 minutes, or until the topping is golden brown and the filling is bubbling.

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.

Prison Officer
(£11,604 per annum)

Working in a prison isn't for everyone, but, if you're one of the few with the right blend of qualities, it's a secure and very rewarding career. HM Prison Service serves the public by keeping in custody those committed by the courts. The role of a Prison Officer is to look after them with humanity and help them lead law abiding and useful lives in custody and after release. Day-to-day, you'll supervise prisoners and help to create a safe, secure environment where rehabilitation is supported and encouraged. You will take direction from Senior Prison Officers and assist the Superintendent of Prisons to run a safe and secure prison. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Applicants must be at least 18 years or over

Enquiries: Paul Duncan on Tel No. 25995 or Email: paul.duncan@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 29 May 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 June 2026
Interview date: 16 June 2026

Handyman-Driver (Local interest only)
(£9,573 per annum)

The handyman driver is dedicated to enhancing the lives of everyone in our community and fostering the island's prosperity by assisting with the daily operations of the Central Support Service across various service areas. This includes performing minor maintenance tasks and taking on driving responsibilities as needed. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Sara-Kay Yon on Tel No.22470 or Email: sara-kay.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 29 May 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 June 2026
Interview date: 16 June 2026

1:1 Teaching Assistant (SHSS)
(£10,966 per annum)

Do you have a passion for education? We are looking to recruit a dedicated Teaching Assistant to support the class teacher in delivering high-quality teaching and learning within the classroom environment. The successful candidate will be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Strong communication skills are essential, as the role involves working closely with students, parents, and colleagues. If you would like more information or an informal discussion about the role, please contact us.

Enquiries: Phil Toal on Tel No. 24290 or Email: phil.toal@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 29 May 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 June 2026
Interview date: 16 June 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

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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.

Budget Officer
(£13,569 per annum)

Are you experienced in accounting or budgeting? If so, SHG is seeking a Budget Officer to join our Treasury team. In this role, you will provide expert guidance and support to budget holders in preparing, monitoring, and managing their budgets. You will review and analyse budget documentation, scrutinise departmental Budget Execution Reports, and advise Budget Holders and Senior Management on strategies to address variances, providing clear evidence to support your recommendations. If this opportunity excites you, we'd love to hear from you!

Enquiries: Mercy Chiseya on Tel No. 22470 or Email: mercy.chiseya@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 29 May 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 June 2026
Interview date: 16 June 2026

Preventative Health Evaluation & Impact Manager
(£19,814 per annum) (Fixed term 2 years)

The Preventative Health Evaluation & Impact Manager will contribute to enhancing the well-being of everyone in our community and support the island's prosperity by supporting efforts to strengthen the community prevention and management of chronic diseases. This role aims to enhance the processes and capabilities of the preventative health team. Key responsibilities will include designing, implementing, and assessing health improvement initiatives, along with creating impact case studies. Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Selvi Jeyaseelan on Tel No.22470 or Email: selvi.jeyaseelan@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 20 May 2026
Shortlisting date: 25 May 2026
Interview date: 04 June 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: 29 May 2026
Shortlisting date: 03 June 2026
Interview date: 11 June 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's Day Celebrations 2026

Thursday 21st May

The Seafront, Nr Thompson's Crane

PROGRAMME

"St Helenian Food"

A Fusion of Continents - A taste of home!

11:00am - Marching Parade, followed by Opening Ceremony

11:30am - Opening of Stalls

1:00pm - Food Competition

- Bingo on Donny's Deck

2:00pm - Secondary School Performance

3:00pm - Float Parade starting at Maldivia Road

4:30pm - Judging of the Floats

5:00pm - Tug of War

- Local Music Entertainment

6:00pm - Local Band Entertainment

8:00pm - Fireworks Display

8:30pm - Local Band Entertainment

ST HELENA FA

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

St Helena's Day Celebrations 2026

Thursday 21st May

FLOAT COMPETITION PRIZES

Theme: "St Helenian Food"

A Fusion of Continents - A taste of home!

1st Prize - £300.00

2nd Prize - £200.00

3rd Prize - £100.00

Participation Prize - £40.00

Contacts:

James Cairns-Wicks E: James06031997@gmail.com / **Shelley Magellan-Wade** Shelley.magellan-wade@trust.org.sh



NOTICE BOARD

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 Madonna Henry, Human Resources Manager, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **22 May 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
Road Tanker Driver/Relief Watchkeeper

Salary for the post will commence at £11,100 per annum (£213 per week)

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

As the Road Tanker Driver/Relief Watchkeeper, you will be responsible for the loading and delivery of fuels to clients and accountable for completion of documents. Provide support to the Watchkeepers as and when required, assist with general maintenance duties, fuel transfers between storage tanks and also assist with Ship-to-Shore Tanker operations.

Interested Persons Should:

- Ideally be familiar with the safe loading, transportation and dispensing of fuels in bulk via Road Tanker
- Be in possession of a clean & valid drivers' licence in class J4
- Have basic competency in Maths & English
- Be able to work unsocial hours, including shift work
- Be customer focused and able to deliver excellent level of customer service
- Honest, accountable and proactive
- Be safety conscious and have Health & Safety awareness in a fuels environment
- Able to work effectively in a team environment
- Able to work to a high degree of accuracy in a within a highly structured framework and comply with established procedures
- Ideally have experience or be knowledgeable of the safe handling of fuels
- Be comfortable to work in a hazardous environment and deal with hazardous substances
- Ideally have the ability to perform general maintenance duties
- Ability to undertake physically demanding and manual handling tasks

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

Mr Rico Yon, BFI Manager via 22332 bfi@helanta.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **22 May 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



CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS TO SERVE ON THE ST HELENA HOTEL DEVELOPMENT LTD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS CHAIRPERSON

St Helena Hotel Development Ltd. is seeking Expressions of Interests from suitably qualified persons interested in serving as the Chairperson of the Board.

The Chairperson & the Board of Directors have a collective responsibility for the strategic direction of the business and for monitoring the performance of the Hotel, in line with the Hotel Management Agreement in place with the Operator, Mantis.

A copy of the terms of reference for the Board, and a form to register an interest may be requested from the Company Secretary, Miss Nicole Plato via email nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh or collected from the Castle, Jamestown.

Expressions of Interest should be made using the form and should be submitted, along with a current Curriculum Vitae to the Company Secretary, Miss Nicole Plato via email, or in hardcopy addressed to the Secretary at the Castle, by **Friday, 22 May 2026**.

Please note that registering an interest does not guarantee an appointment to the board as this is subject to applicant's having the required knowledge, skills and experience. This position attracts a monthly fee.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday Services - 17th May
Sandy Bay Chapel, 8.45am
Head O'Wain Chapel, 10.45am
Jamestown Chapel, 6pm

Bible Studies
Tuesday, 19th May: Baptist School Hall, 7pm
Wednesday, 20th May: Blue Hill Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 21th May: Sandy Bay Chapel, 5.30pm

SPECIAL EVENT
Adventure Kids: Age 6 – 10 yrs old
Saturday, 16th May: Baptist School Hall, 10-11.30am`

Ladies Meeting
Wednesday, 20th May: Baptist School Hall, 10.30am

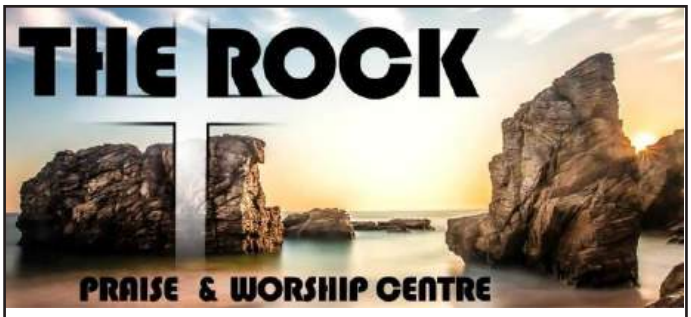
ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information contact: Tel No 22388

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 17th May 2026– 6th Sunday after Easter		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Family Eucharist/Church Parade/Junior Church	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 17th May 2026 – 6th Sunday after Easter		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Tuesday 19th May	
7.00 p.m.	**Mission Worship and Praise**	**Sandy Bay Community Centre**
	Thursday 21st May	
11.00 a.m.	**St Helena Day Service**	**Grand Parade**
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 17th May 2026 – 6th Sunday after Easter		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 19th May	
7.00 p.m.	Bible School on Wheels	St Mark

NOTICE BOARD



Church Notices

We warmly invite you to join us for:

Prayer Meeting-Online

Saturday 16 May 2026 at 8:30am

Contact Mercy –Prayer Co-Ordinator for details-65880 or 24212

Praise and Worship Service

Sunday 17th May 2026 11.00am,

@ The Rock Christian Fellowship Centre, Longwood Avenue.

Cell Meetings

Tuesday 19th May 2026

Jamestown @ 7.00pm, (Contact: Bramwell 62117)

Wednesday 20th May 2026

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

The Rock Christian Fellowship, Longwood Avenue at 7.00pm

(Contact: Tav 51727 for details)

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, 18 MAY 2026

The Second Formal Session for 2026 of the St Helena Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will take place on Monday, 18 May at 9.30am in the Council Chamber.

The main programme of business will focus on the St Helena Government Financial Statements and Audit Management Letters for the Financial Years 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and the meeting will be streamed and broadcast live on SAMS Radio 1.

ST HELENA PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
11 May 2026

St Helena Legislative Council

MINISTER'S QUESTION TIME

Tuesday 19 May 2026

The seventh meeting of Ministers Question Time will take place on Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 10am in the Council Chamber. This meeting is open to the public and will be broadcast live via SAMS Radio 1

The topic for this meeting is: **Impact of Global Conflict and International Economic Instability on St Helena's Essential Services, Supply Chains, Cost of Living and National Resilience**

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

Legislative Council, 12 May 2026

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TIP OF THE WEEK

When replacing your appliances, look for low energy models.

During the life of the appliance, the savings in electricity could be more than the total cost of the appliance.

NOTICE BOARD



Death Announcement for

LARRY RAYMOND GUNNELL

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of our beloved brother, uncle, and husband; Larry Raymond Gunnell.

Larry passed away peacefully on Sunday, 10 May 2026, at the age of 78, in the Queen Alexander Hospital, Portsmouth, Hampshire. Although he is sorely missed by all those he left behind, it is in the knowledge that he is no longer suffering in which we find comfort.

Larry is survived by his wife, Carole, brothers, Cyril (Ferdie) and Paul, sisters, Dorothy and Oriel (Patsy), brother-in-law, Robert, sister-in-law, Mavis, sons, Kevin, Colin and Johnny, and other family members, both on St Helena and in the UK.

May he rest in peace.

Golf Report

Leaver Shines as Stableford Battle Heats Up



SHCG, Contributed

Eighteen keen golfers braved the fairways of St Helena Golf Club on Sunday, 10 May, for an 18 hole Stableford Competition sponsored by the club. Played under cloudy but mercifully dry skies, the course provided a true test and sparked some tight competition across the field.

Stealing the spotlight was Nigel Leaver, who put together a rock solid and consistent round to post an excellent 36 points off a handicap of 19. His composed performance proved unbeatable on the day, earning him overall victory and first prize.

Close on his heels was Neil Joshua, who produced another steady display to finish with 34 points off 20. That effort secured him the overall runner up spot and second prize, capping off a fine day's work.

The battle for the remaining places was just as competitive. Jeffrey Stevens claimed third place with 32 points off 11, while Jason Hopkins grabbed fourth spot on 31 points.

Things were particularly tight in the middle of the leaderboard, with Ashton Benjamin, Laura Buckley and Keith Buckley all locked together on 30 points. Countback over the closing nine holes was needed to separate the trio, underlining just how closely matched the field was.

One of the highlights of the day came at the par 3 fifth hole, where Bramwell Bushuru thrilled the field by firing the only birdie 2 of the competition on that hole. The quality shot earned him the two ball pool prize, scooping all the balls on offer in style.

Congratulations goes to all the prize winners for an entertaining and competitive afternoon of golf.

Looking ahead, golfers are reminded that the next competition takes place on Sunday 17 May 2026, featuring a Par 3 Strokeplay format, with 3/8 of the combined handicap applied. Tee off is at 12 noon, and registration closes at 3pm on Saturday, 16 May.

Then, mark your calendars for Sunday, 24 May 2026, when the club hosts the prestigious Annual Gwyneth Howell Trophy Challenge; an 18 hole Cross Country Strokeplay competition that promises plenty of excitement. This flagship event is not to be missed, so register early and come out in numbers to support one of the club's biggest and most valued sponsors.

Happy swinging!

SPORTS ARENA

Playoffs Set in Stone

Mustangs join Allstars, Pirates and Challengers in 2026 RMS T20 Playoffs



Luke Bennett, SAMS

The RMS T20 continued on Saturday, kicking off with the highly anticipated postponed match between Jamestown Heat and Western A Mustangs, which would see the winner move on to this year's playoffs. Heat won the toss and sent the Mustangs in to bat, where they got off to a steady start; each batsman putting up a reasonable total before being dismissed. Player of the Match, Kyle Bennett, came away with the highest score (37) helping his team to a total of 148. Jason Thomas would be the standout bowler taking one wicket for 18 runs in his four overs. Heat would get off to a shaky start in their run chase thanks largely to some brilliant bowling from Mustangs. Damian Burns would bring hope to the Heat after posting a score of 35, but the bowling proved too strong, led by Gareth Johnson with two wickets for six runs. Eventually, Heat would run out of overs reaching a total of 117, leaving Mustangs to take the win and progress to the playoffs.

The second match of the weekend saw another highly anticipated match between the then leaders, Levelwood Allstars, and Challengers. League Champions, Challengers, went in to bat first where they were met with some intense bowling from the Allstars. Player of the Match, Andrew Yon (36), and Jordi Henry (37), would navigate the Allstars relentless bowling attack led by Aiden Leo with three wickets for 13 runs. However, once this pair were dismissed, the rest of the batting order collapsed, leaving Challengers with a less-than-ideal total of 119 runs; a chaseable total for sure – but Challengers would have other plans. Allstars, during the chase, got off to a slow but steady start, however the bowling of Challengers was relentless right from the off. Adding to his batting performance, Jordi Henry starred with the ball as well, finishing with figures of one wicket for ten runs after four overs. The runs would come sparingly for Allstars, though Delroy Leo would fight till the bitter end, finishing on 55 runs, not out. This was not enough to overcome the Challengers bowling attack however, with Allstars eventually falling 12 runs short of the total, giving Challengers the win and seeing their undefeated streak come to an end.

On Sunday morning, Jamestown Heat defeated Cobras in another all-out action-packed match. Heat batted first producing a strong start to the innings with Player of the Match, Dax Richards, racking up a half century for the Heat. Despite a solid start at the top of the batting order, the middle order however collapsed thanks to some brilliant bowling from Cobras, restricting Heat to a reasonable total of 144 runs. Cobras took to the field to bat, but were met with some excellent bowling from the Heat, led by Jason Thomas, with an outstanding bowling spell consisting of three wickets for just six runs. A valiant knock of 30 from Dane Wade wasn't enough to reach the total, with Heat restricting Cobras to a total of 106 to claim the win.

The final match of the weekend saw Sandy Bay Pirates defeat Western A Mustangs in the last match of the league stage. Pirates elected to bat first with Player of the Match, David Young, smashing a 33 to set Pirates on their way. However, after this, their batting order collapsed thanks to some strong bowling from Mustangs led by Kyle Bennett who grabbed four wickets. It was Captain Rhys Francis who would stop Mustangs momentum, taking control of the game and knocking a score of 55 runs to help his team to a total of 153. During the second innings, Pirates took to the field and stormed through the Mustangs batting order, producing an outstanding bowling display, led by Jerry Thomas with four wickets for eight runs. This top-tier bowling performance would restrict Mustangs to 82, giving Pirates the win.

In summary, it was another all-out action-packed weekend which saw Challengers overcome the inform Allstars, however both teams have done enough to make the playoffs, along with Pirates and Mustangs, leaving it all to play for this weekend.

Playoff Fixtures

Saturday 16th May

9:30 Sandy Pirirates v Westrn A Mustangs

13:30 Levelwood Allstars v Challengers