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SENTINEL

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Police say they "acted lawfully and in accordance with the information available at the time" in response to van Wyk couple wrongful arest

Local and Overseas Bids Sought for New Prison



Con-graduations!



Ronaldo Johnson

BSc (Hons) in Biomedical Science (First Class), University of the West of England (UWE Bristol)

Brand New to The Sentinel

'Letters from London'

with Michael Binyon



OPINION

SENTINEL COMMENT

Liam Yon, SAMS

Wow, it's September already! We are into the final quarter of this year – time sure is flying. This month will also mark the first full year in office for our current government; it'd be good to have a chat with them, particularly the Chief Minister and her Ministerial team, to see how the past year has played out – the successes, the failures, the progress, the challenges, and everything in between.

I see that our new Governor has arrived as well – welcome to St Helena Mrs. Belinda Lewis. It was a bit late for us to get anything reported on for this week, but no doubt we will have something official on the territories new Head of Office soon. Heard she was up at The Star today (Wednesday) during the usual 'not much on the shelves or in the freezers' phase – hold fast Gov, the ship be here soon!

The big story on St Helena over the past few weeks has been the controversial wrongful arrest of Kevin and Tasneen van Wyk – two completely innocent residents (as confirmed by Police in today's The Sentinel), who was subject to being arrested at their work place, in front of colleagues, during a busy Thursday afternoon in Jamestown, all while their house was searched, items seized, and young daughters taken into protective custody. All because their 5-digit home landline number matched the first five digits of an international number associated with the blackmail crime under investigation (Ken Westmoreland gives an explanation of how this might've happened in his 'Dear Editor' letter this week).

I'm sorry St Helena Police, but that is just pure incompetency from your investigating team dealing with this case. Lazy, complacent and rushed work by those trusted (and paid well) to do their job to the highest possible standard. Then this week, Police provided a statement that has taken a defensive stance, backing the conduct of their officers. I get it RSHP, can't admit guilt when there is a potential sue case coming right? However, all of your recent work to build back a relationship with the public, which I felt was going well, has just been thrown out of the window with this incredibly unprofessional investigation and arrest, followed by a clear lack of accountability and also the lack of a simple "sorry" in your statement – where is the empathy?

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Following on from my story that was published in St Fm on 17th May 2019 by Mike Olsen, this article has since been removed from the online version and no satisfactory explanation given as to why it's been removed, but I find it shocking that I was called a lunatic on air by St Fm soon after it was published to the public; naughty naughty St Fm!

No response from PSO, AG, Police, Councillors, and Governor on that open letter; their silence was and still is saying more than they ever could.

In 2011, I came home for a holiday and got attacked by police. I had to seek medical attention, then cover up the attack. I questioned, challenged and reported this attack, only for it to be mishandled (covered up) by Inspector Patterson; at the time, the two officers were Stevenson and Boyle - these officers went on to assaulting prisoners. Then, returned to the UK, no arrest or any real investigation. I had to seek medical attention for injuries sustained for asking a question; why did you stopped my cousin's car in the middle of the road? I got punched in the jaw and rotator cuff damaged for that question; my holiday was not well enjoyed after that given I couldn't do activities due to injury.

Let's break this down to bullet points to save some reading:

2015-2022, came home as a returning Saint: stolen identity and trialled as someone else (Damian Shane Phillips), false imprisonment in a shop, threatened, harassed, humiliated and degraded for about seven years, false fabricated documents by Police force, including two Police Chiefs, false fabricated documents by two Probation Officers; Probation Officers caused a breach and blamed me, breach of human and constitutional rights, removal of court transcripts of me identifying myself as Damien Thomas, hiding my case from HMICFRS, forceful entry into my home without any grounds to do so, asking me how many times I masturbate, officers investigating themselves and no professional standards department or registered by independent body IOPC.

My identity wasn't confirmed, even after my Mum told them they have the wrong Damien and issued me court letters for Damian Shane Phillips of Longwood. Documents was changed in court while trial was still active, in front of judge and judiciary after I identified myself as Damien Thomas. Still no ID checks was carried out, paperwork was given to me in Damian Phillips, signed by someone else, then changed and altered 16 days later to Damien Thomas, where I was forced, against my will, whilst threatening a young family member of mine - if I don't sign, I was not allowed to leave the station until those documents were signed and without any legal representation present even after I asked.

2023: refusal to deal with two cases of a criminal nature, fabricated documents again. Also showed complete disrespect on the day of my mom's funeral. A report of concern was submitted by one of their own staff for refusing to attend the scene of a crime.

Presently: unprofessionalism, failure to correct my identity, refusal to give back my refund, false vetting certificate, refusal to deal with any of my cases, Police Chief given retirement after perjury and harassment, failure to engage with me in any professional matter to resolve all cases (silent treatment), this list just goes on; breaches of the fraud act, breaches of GDPR, police taint, refusal to let me contact the Judge, refusal to give all the information I asked for, even under the freedom of information act or subject access request, section 45 article 15.

It's either they don't have what I'm asking for, or they have destroyed it, or don't know what they are doing! It's been ten years and trying to get my information from Police, AG and SHG is like asking for information on Tier 1 clandestine operations. The small amount of information I did get was mostly unreadable due to being heavily redacted, but we all know the initials DH on some of the paperwork!

What would a guilty person or persons do when asked for evidence on themselves?

Dave Honan was reported to the Police on multiple occasions, even published it in 2019 while he was still on island. The response I got was that he is no longer a serving officer and can't comment on these matters. I reported the officers from the 2011 incident to the 2015 and 2022 incidents, they were still actively on duty and on St Helena

Why was there no arrest or investigations carried out on these expat officers that were hired by SHG? There's a full-blown pattern around expat UK officers committing crimes

and just put on a plane back to UK without any investigations into their crimes.
Dave Honan approached me in the street on a few occasions while the investigation was going on in 2016, without legal representative, to intimate and bully me. He said something about putting me in prison for six years and the famous line of 'I don't care who's innocent or guilty, I get paid for convictions.' To my shock and surprise, a woman came into the Atlantic Store, not sure how long after this it was, but I overheard her talking to the cashier about Dave Honan and she said he told me 'I don't care who's innocent or guilty' – that line was repeated as exactly as Dave Honan said it to me. The same line was used on another Saint.
Just because his wife was the Governor, it does not mean he can commit crimes and just walk away. A Police Officer, as in my last publication in 2019, witnessed Dave Honan tampering with evidence. All Dave Honan's cases must go under mandatory review as the convictions are unsafe.
The EHRC told the Police they breached my human rights, with one of those breaches being the right to a fair trial, as evidence was fabricated, tampered with, and destroyed by Police, and when asked for this information, it was none forthcoming. The response was Police Officers comply with all laws and fully support and promote the human rights of people and that Chief Inspector Thomas conclusion was that Mr Thomas's rights were not breached, and all codes of practices were complied with. There you have it, another cover-up in black and white, signed by David Lynch, previous Chief of Police.
Where is the criminal justice system that SHG and the PSO claim we have? My cases are still sitting from 2011 involving criminal activities by Police and Government in which they are refusing to deal with, especially AG's Office, of crimes committed against me by Police Officers. PSO can only do the paperwork, nothing more, they can't action the cases as they are not a regulated law firm and it comes under a restriction for non-regulated law firms.
But, hold on, PSO said to (word for word) Legal Ombudsman that the Public Solicitors Office says the matters complained of occurred on the island of St Helena, this is a self-governing overseas territory with its own legal system and roll of advocates, as a consequence, any litigation or advocacy services provided occurred entirely within this jurisdiction, which is distinct from England and Wales.
We are not self-governing, and where is the legal system and roll of advocates? If there was one, why do we have to fight for justice from crimes committed by expats or otherwise that was hired by SHG? Where is the legal system for when they get it terribly wrong? Where is the system for medical negligence cases? Where is the equivalent to Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), Independent Office of Police Conduct (IOPC), Professional Standards Department (PSD), Judiciary Conduct Investigations Office (JCIO), Prison and Probation Ombudsman, Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC), if we have our own legal system and roll of advocates?
Nigel Phillips has stopped responding to me after finding out my court transcripts has been destroyed, even though it is a legal requirement to keep and to hold them on record. From what I have gathered, records only get deleted after 100 years. Also, his letter to me is a cause for concern.
Andrew Duncan claims the information they hold are true, accurate and a finding of fact, and also claims he went through 15 years of data (in an unrealistic window) even after proving he was wrong and provided false information, which is misconduct in public office. Chief Minister Cairns-Wicks and Kedell Worboys wants me to contact him, even after I refused to deal any further with an AG that has committed a crime. If he had gone through my files, like he claims, he would have found all the information of stolen identity and fabricated documents, or maybe he did find them.
The fact of the matter is SHG and Councillors are aware of this misconduct in public office, but still no investigation into his behaviour after just starting his new role as AG.
That pattern again of rule and law breaking by SHG-hired expatriate staff.
In August 2025, new evidence came to light by a witness; again, this was ignored by the Governor and Police.
This year, 2026, evidence of breaches of the fraud act and subject access request criminal offence, section 173 of DPA act 2018.
Nothing is being investigated - no integrity, no accountability. As for the Councillors that know all the details and have seen the evidence of my suffering by Police and sitting back doing nothing, to me, you are not Saints, you do not have the Saint people's best interest in mind - you can't take care of this one Saint, let alone a whole island of Saints. An utter disgrace, and shame on you all.
From 2016 to present, allowing people to come to our home and treat us the way they are treating us; we are humans, we are British citizens, we are not below them or second-class citizens on our own home.
The evidence to all of this, if you're wondering, they all already have it and continue to bury all my cases.
As for the FCDO, they were aware of my cases since 2017, not one finger lifted.
If the crimes are so serious, as it is serious, it's the Governors appointed duty to organise an independent investigation just like with the airport vehicles. Three governors, no independent investigation into the crimes by Police Officers, either active or back in the UK.
Then they want Saints to return!

Damien Thomas Titchy

Dear Editor,

Potatoes and breadfruit
The other day, I was thinking about potatoes.
That (1) one never tires of the taste of potatoes: unlike (e.g.) a sweet potato (actually a bindweed); (2) potatoes give starch for energy (and vitamins for health too: unlike (e.g.) rice, hence malnutrition in rice-eating countries); (3) indeed, potatoes can be a staple, as in Ireland before the Great Famine of the 19th century (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Famine_(Ireland); (4) potatoes don't need mowing, so are less work overall than a lawn, but very hard work to plant, earth up and harvest; my mum's primary class vanished at harvest time, to gather the roved-up* potatoes; (5) any unharvested ("sleepers") grow into a plant, more virus-prone: hence, the advice to buy seed from virus-free climates; and (6) potatoes have their ideal climate zones. In fact, it was reading about another crop's ideal climate zone

YOUR LETTERS

that prompted those thoughts: the breadfruit, so named for its bread-like texture when cooked: a selectively-bred, large, seedless relative of the mulberry and jackfruit: notorious for its role in the Mutiny on the Bounty.

Interestingly, Wikipedia says that Bligh completed a later trip with breadfruit, delivering some to St Helena (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breadfruit), yet they're not mentioned as a crop in St Helena Info's pages on farming (https://sainthelenaisland.info/farming.htm) or industries, even as a failed one (https://sainthelenaisland.info/industries.htm).

The Museum of St Helena's ever-helpful and informative Adam Sizeland contributed: "We do have what is locally known as 'breadfruit' on the island and some rarely makes it to the shop for sale, however this is the Monstera deliciosa, or Swiss cheese plant. I would estimate it's very likely the real breadfruit plant was introduced by Bligh on his mission to transplant it from the Pacific to the Caribbean, but whether it survived or not, I do not know. Our Flowering Plants & Ferns guidebook does not contain an entry … ."

Adam also supplied a 1995 article from the South Atlantic Chronicle, which suggested that a 3-year drought might have affected the young plants which Bligh brought.

The French postal (dis)service prevented my contacting the Agriculture & Natural Resources Division. I shall try again later.

Of course, one cannot simply import a foreign plant without regulatory approval but, as a typical child of the 1950s (big meals: plenty of them), I noted that breadfruit are edible in a wide variety of dishes, e.g. fritters, curries, even desserts (e.g., https://happymuncher.com/breadfruit-recipes/ and https://insanelygoodrecipes.com/breadfruit-recipes/) and they freeze well (e.g., https://www.postguam.com/news/pacific/samoan-breadfruit-to-help-alleviate-hunger-around-the-world/article_fd84f7e0-99c8-11e6-9a02-3704b94e7142.html).

I almost wondered whether breadfruit might be one of those "ample opportunities" which the Sustainable Economic Development Strategy 2023-2028 announced "exist to harness St Helena's unique and pristine environment to produce other high-value agricultural products that have good potential in the global marketplace", because the Strategy continued that "SHG will continue to explore the viability and feasibility of niche agricultural crops such as high-value nuts, spices, or other high-value ingredients".

Regards,

Lucky Thomson

Editor's note: *"roved-up" means "ploughed to the surface by a tractor".*

Dear Editor

Like many others I was appalled to read the account of how Kevin van Wyk and his wife Tasneen were wrongfully arrested by the Royal St Helena Police Service, and the distress that they were caused, if only for a day, particularly the flimsy nature of evidence. However, as someone with an interest in internet scams as well as telecommunications, including telephone numbering, I also have every sympathy with the woman who contacted the police after she received a message blackmailing her.

Unfortunately, there have been many cases in the UK and elsewhere of people being targeted by sextortion gangs online, tricking them into sharing nude images of themselves, before threatening to share them online unless they pay a large ransom, and sadly, some of their victims have been driven to suicide. However, these gangs tend to approach people, usually men, on Facebook, using fake profiles with stolen pictures, usually of attractive young women, and then groom their victims before asking them for nude pictures and/or videos, but from what I can gather, the woman in St Helena who was blackmailed was contacted directly on her mobile phone, from an international number, one that the police confused with Mr van Wyk's landline number.

As it happens, many of these gangs operate from countries in West Africa, including Nigeria, which has the country code '234', with mobile phone number ranges beginning with the digits '90', so if you put those together, you get '23490', which is Mr van Wyk's landline number. What appears to have happened is that a police officer tried to dial the number in Nigeria from a landline in St Helena without first using the international access code '00' (it's also possible to use '+' from a mobile) meaning that the telephone network only recognised the first five digits, so '234 90 12345678' was read as '23490', leading to the call being put through to Mr van Wyk's home.

Given the expense of calling St Helena from Nigeria (9000 naira or £4.95 a minute!) and the sheer impossibility of texting numbers there, as well as the absence of roaming arrangements between Sure and telecom operators in Nigeria, it seems unlikely to me that the perpetrator would have used the telephone network at all, and far more likely that he used WhatsApp to contact his would-be victim on St Helena. Very occasionally, I get messages on WhatsApp from numbers I don't recognise, which I delete and ignore. Incidentally, when I googled '"+234 90" "WhatsApp", I came across a video of a man in Nigeria telling people how to send bulk messages on WhatsApp, so it's possible that the woman in St Helena may have been just one of many recipients of the same threatening message.

I don't know how she was first approached by the perpetrator, whether he exchanged messages with her first before asking for intimate images of her, or just messaged her out of the blue saying he had such images of her and would share them unless she paid up. Nor do I know if she shared such images with him, but in the event that she has, she has nothing to feel ashamed of, any more than those targeted by sextortion gangs before her have been, though I hope that in her case, she had a narrow escape.

None of this justifies what happened to Mr and Mrs van Wyk, or their children, nor the behaviour of the RHSPS, which was wholly disproportionate, especially given their apparent inability to tell telephone numbers apart, and distinguish between those displayed in international and domestic formats! I look forward to reading its full explanation of its officers' actions, and am happy to stand corrected by it, as well as the apology to Mr van Wyk and his family.

Yours,

Ken Westmoreland

New Immigration Ordinance Approved

Immigration (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026, approved by The Governor



The new legislation introduces a single, unified Permission to Stay and Work Permit valid for up to five years, replacing separate long-term entry and work applications

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government has announced the approval of the Immigration Amendment Ordinance 2026, introducing sweeping updates to the island's entry, stay, and employment regulations.

The legislation was formally passed by Elected Members in Formal LegCo on 17 July and received approval from the Governor on 3 August. The announcement comes nearly a year after the previous 2025 amendment was revoked prior to implementation.

Addressing why the prior legislation was scrapped, SHG explained that the 2025 Ordinance "was revoked in September 2025 due to errors in the drafting which would have brought about unintended consequences should the ordinance have come into force".

A central feature of the new framework is the creation of a single, unified Permission to Stay and Work Permit, valid for up to five years, which replaces the previous requirement for separate long-term entry permits, work permits, and immigrant employment certificates. SHG stated that this new unified structure "simplifies hiring for local businesses and speeds up turnaround times for workers".

For visitors, traditional short-term entry permits have been designated as Holiday Permits, valid for up to 183 days and extendable up to a full year. In a move aimed at supporting community initiatives, SHG confirmed that Holiday Permit holders "may also undertake up to 30 days of voluntary work for registered local charities or non-profit organisations".

The Ordinance also introduces new provisions for Discretionary Leave, giving Immigration Officers authority to issue immediate permissions during emergency situations, unexpected travel delays, or for short-term essential work, such as visits by medical specialists or key technical contractors.

Furthermore, overall responsibility for application processing and status determinations will now be centralised under the Chief Immigration Officer, supported by a structured administrative review process designed to resolve queries "quickly without unnecessary delay".

Reassuring local employers and expatriate workers, SHG emphasised that "all existing permits, work permissions, and legal rights granted prior to this Ordinance remain fully valid for their remaining duration," confirming that current permit holders do not need to take immediate action.

The Ordinance will officially come into force on a date to be fixed by the Governor. Ahead of implementation, the St Helena Immigration Department will share further information and host public awareness sessions to walk residents and local businesses through the updated procedures.



The new legislation introduces a single, unified Permission to Stay and Work Permit valid for up to five years, replacing separate long-term entry and work applications

ST HELENA NEWS

We "acted lawfully and in accordance with the information available at the time"

Royal St Helena Police Service break silence on wrongful arrest as they defend the conduct of their officers in an official statement to The Sentinel



RSHPS maintains officers acted lawfully, while confirming Kevin and Tasneen van Wyk (inset) are fully cleared of any involvement in the blackmail investigation

Liam Yon, SAMS

The Royal St Helena Police Service (RSHPS) has formally broken its silence regarding the wrongful arrest of Bank of St Helena employees Kevin and Tasneen van Wyk, issuing a comprehensive statement that defends officer conduct while confirming both individuals have been completely exonerated.

In its official statement provided to The Sentinel, the Police Service acknowledged the severe impact of the incident, stating that while an arrest "is often a necessary investigative step," authorities "acknowledge the distress and disruption that this process may have caused to the individuals concerned."

However, following an internal review of the circumstances, Police concluded that investigating officers had "acted lawfully and in accordance with the information available at the time," strictly adhering to established policies, procedures, and custody processes under relevant legislation.

Addressing why the couple was arrested publicly at their workplace rather than at their residence, RSHPS cited the statutory threshold of "reasonable grounds to suspect" in order to secure evidence. "At the time the decision was made the officers strongly believed that evidence of the offence which would prove or disprove the suspect's involvement was at the home address of the suspects," they explained. "The decision to arrest the parties away from their home addresses was taken quickly to ensure the evidence would not be lost."

RSHPS maintained that clearing the couple was a "rapid process" once detained, adding that all relevant steps were taken to minimise adverse inferences by their employers. The statement also explicitly confirmed that "investigators have found no evidence whatsoever that either person was involved in the matters under investigation, and both individuals have therefore been completely exonerated in relation to this case." Police added that the van Wyk's "are not subjects of any ongoing police enquiries connected to this investigation."

Defending their extended delay in issuing a public statement—which Mr van Wyk had previously cleared them to make—RSHPS explained that public comment can risk "prejudicing an ongoing investigation, compromising evidential opportunities, infringing the privacy of those involved, or disclosing investigative methods."

Addressing the public fallout, Police expressed shared disappointment over "the gossip and rumour that spread afterwards," urging the community to avoid speculation that could cause additional distress or undermine confidence in the investigative process. RSHPS reiterated that enquiries remain active to catch the real perpetrator,

emphasising that "it is important not to lose sight of the fact that there remains a victim who has suffered significant distress."

Concluding their statement, RSHPS noted that the Governor, Government, and the public, rightly expect the highest standards, stating that they remain "committed to being held accountable for our actions" and will act upon any identified learning to improve future service.

Despite the scope of the Police statement, it entirely omitted any reference to the primary catalyst behind the arrest; the controversial phone number mix-up. RSHPS provided no explanation as to how a partial match between a 5-digit home landline and an 11-digit international number constituted reasonable grounds to detain two innocent citizens, search their residence, seize their equipment and temporarily place their young daughters into protective care.

Responding to the Police update, Kevin van Wyk noted the statement was "precisely" what he had anticipated from the RSHPS. Having already lodged a formal complaint and with legal proceedings under serious consideration, pursuant to Section 22 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Ordinance 2003, public scrutiny now turns to whether independent oversight will examine the Police's claims of statutory compliance.



RSHPS stands by its initial actions, asserting officers acted on 'reasonable grounds to suspect' to secure potential evidence

In the meantime, Police say investigations to identify the real perpetrator continues. "Investigators continue to pursue all available lines of enquiry to identify the person or persons responsible for the alleged offence," they said. "Our priority continues to be supporting the victim and progressing the investigation."

Save that Serve

Ladder Hill Tennis Court closes for restoration works

Liam Yon, SAMS


The dramatic cliff-top court at Ladder Hill, currently closed to the public while St Helena Government carries out facility upgrades

Tennis players planning to practice their serve at Ladder Hill will need to pause their games, as the facility temporarily closes for essential restoration works.

The court closed to the public on Tuesday, 1 September, and will remain out of action until Sunday, 18 October, while maintenance is carried out to improve the facility's overall condition and safety.

Perched high above Jamestown at Ladder Hill Fort—a historic site first fortified in 1790—the court is a venue for local players, carrying on an island tennis tradition that stretches back over a century to the early garrison days at the site.

St Helena Government has thanked the public in advance for their cooperation and apologised for any temporary inconvenience caused while the court is out of service.

Con-graduations!

Celebrating the Achievements of Saint Graduates in the UK

Ronaldo Johnson



BSc (Hons) in Biomedical Science (First Class), University of the West of England (UWE Bristol)

Liam Yon, SAMS

Our featured graduate this week is Ronaldo Johnson, who has recently graduated with First Class Honours in Biomedical Science from the University of the West of England (UWE Bristol). Across his three-year Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS)-accredited degree, Ronaldo developed a deep expertise in diagnostic science, combining rigorous laboratory research with real-world clinical application.

Ronaldo's degree covered all core IBMS disciplines: Cellular Pathology, Medical Genetics, Haematology and Transfusion Science, Medical Microbiology, and Immunology.

In his first year, Ronaldo built a foundational understanding of human anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, and cell biology, mastering how cellular disruptions contribute to disease and how biochemical markers are used in clinical diagnosis. By his second year, his studies specialised further into molecular genetics and disease mechanisms. He gained practical expertise in DNA sequencing, primer design, PCR, and bioinformatics, while exploring the genetic roots of conditions such as cystic fibrosis, Huntington's disease, and Duchenne muscular dystrophy, as well as the pathology of GI cancers, HIV, and diabetes.

Ronaldo chose optional modules in Immunology and Tissue and Tumour Science, driven by a long-standing interest in Oncology. These modules examined how the immune system maintains homeostasis, the mechanisms of autoimmune diseases, and how hereditary and acquired cancers metastasize and are diagnosed through histopathological techniques.

Recognising his primary passions lay in Medical Genetics and Cellular Pathology, Ronaldo took on the academic challenge of completing both as dual 30-credit specialist modules in his final year. His work involved examining chromosome-level and nucleotide-level mutations, DNA damage responses, and analysing real tissue specimens from breast, prostate, kidney, liver, and bowel cancers to assess cancer staging and identify targeted therapies—a demanding workload that culminated in his First-Class degree.

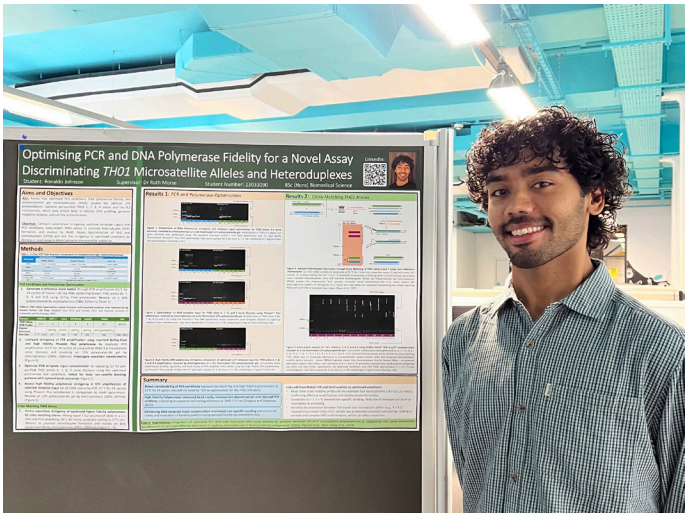
Ronaldo's final-year dissertation, supervised by Dr. Ruth Morse, earned first-class marks and was selected for display at the UWE School of Applied Sciences End of Year Celebration.

Titled "Optimising PCR and DNA Polymerase Fidelity for a Novel Assay Discriminating TH01 Microsatellite Alleles and Heteroduplexes," the research investigated optimising PCR conditions and polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis to evaluate short tandem repeats. The assay models and predicts Microsatellite Instability (MSI)—a precancerous state present in 15–20% of sporadic colorectal, gastric, and endometrial cancers.

Importantly, Ronaldo's research aimed to offer a cost-effective alternative to standard capillary electrophoresis techniques. "If fully validated, the assay could potentially be scaled across laboratories, making the detection of early genomic instability more accessible and reducing financial barriers," Ronaldo explained. "This particularly resonated with me coming from St Helena, as developing these approaches could make genomic testing more accessible in lower-resource settings and support earlier access to life-saving treatment."

Ronaldo highlighted the exceptional academic guidance he





received throughout his degree, particularly from his Personal Academic Tutor and senior lecturer in Cell Pathology, Dr. David Qualthrough, who provided regular one-to-one support, scientific writing guidance, and postgraduate advice.

Ronaldo also expressed deep appreciation for the compassionate support extended during his first year following the heart-breaking loss of his friend and fellow student, Kyla Joshua. UWE's bereavement team (including Anthea), his personal tutor, and academic support staff coordinated arrangements allowing Ronaldo to complete a significant portion of his first year remotely from St Helena. This enabled him to be home alongside loved ones for Kyla's funeral while continuing his studies, ultimately achieving a Distinction grade in his first year.

Moving to Bristol as a first-time traveller to the UK brought its own set of adjustments—from navigating a bustling city to braving cold, dark winters. As part of the first student cohort navigating revised funding structures, Ronaldo managed his finances carefully, securing a part-time role as a Sales Assistant at Superdry during his second year to support himself. Living independently also saw him transform into a confident cook, sharing meals with friends who regularly asked for second helpings.

Beyond his academics, Ronaldo fully embraced life in the UK. A passionate music enthusiast, he attended numerous live concerts and festivals, including Dominic Fike, Bakar, Remi Wolf, Olivia Dean, Noah Kahan, Gracie Abrams, and Taylor Swift's Eras Tour at Wembley. He also maintained a creative outlet through writing poetry, sharing his work on his Instagram platform (@selfamnesiac).

Having graduated without scholarship bond restrictions, Ronaldo has moved to London to launch the next phase of his career. He aims to pursue roles in cancer genomics, reproductive genomics, or genetic counselling, with long-term plans to complete a Master's degree, earn HCPC certification as a Biomedical Scientist, and eventually become a Clinical Scientist.

Reflecting on his journey, Ronaldo shared a heartfelt list of acknowledgments In terms of family support, he expressed deep gratitude to his Mum and Dad for their unwavering financial and emotional backing throughout his education; to his Auntie Deborah and Uncle Brian for helping secure the Bank of St Helena student assistance loan; and to his brother Luke and partner Kimberly for opening their home (and fridge). He also extended special thanks to Dr. Corinda Essex and the St Helena Chamber of Commerce for coordinating an undergraduate grant funded by local businesses; to Tara Wortley, Lynn, and Larry Thomas for providing a graduate grant and employing him during his gap year; and to Wendy Thomas and Kedell Worboys for guiding students through the SFE application process. In addition, Ronaldo expressed appreciation to SHG for providing a travel reimbursement grant following cohort discussions regarding student support. Ronaldo was also hugely appreciative to Kalem for daily phone calls and catch-ups; and gave a tender shoutout to his "guardian angel, Kyla," noting, "I just know you were there every step of the way as a guiding feather, butterfly, or sunlight in an otherwise dark day."

Encouraging students at St Helena Secondary School to aim high, Ronaldo shared valuable advice on choosing an educational path.

"Study something you genuinely love and are passionate about—and have fun, because university will allow you to gain so much more than a degree," he advised. "Before coming to university, I was torn between different degrees, thinking one might fit a specific role back home. Ultimately, I chose the degree I was most passionate about and specialised where I saw gaps and opportunities. A highly educated future is one of the keys to upskilling St Helena. The knowledge and expertise gained overseas can be brought home to strengthen healthcare, improve workflows, and help build a more prosperous island."

The Sentinel congratulates Ronaldo on his First-Class Honours degree, his outstanding research accomplishments, and his clear vision for the future. We wish him every success as he steps into his career in London and continues to make St Helena proud. Keep going, Ronaldo!





LETTERS FROM LONDON

The Sentinel is pleased to introduce a new series for our readers titled 'Letters from London' a monthly (or so) contribution from renowned journalist, Mr Michael Binyon, sharing news and perspectives from Britain that might be of interest to readers here on the Island.
Michael Binyon has been a foreign correspondent, diplomatic editor and editorial writer on The Times since 1972. He was based overseas for 15 years in Washington, Moscow, Brussels and Bonn, and has covered the Middle East war in 1973 and the conflict in Bosnia. He graduated from Cambridge with a degree in English literature and Arabic, and spent a year teaching English in Minsk, USSR, in 1968. He formally retired from the Times staff in 2009, but has continued to write regularly and to broadcast for Times Radio as well as the BBC, Canadian radio, al-Jazeera and various other Arab television stations. He speaks French, German, Russian and some Arabic, has won two British press awards and was awarded the OBE in 2000. He has visited St Helena eight times and is chairman of the UK-St Helena Heritage Trust in London.

Letters from London



— **Michael Binyon,** Contributed —

Andy Burnham has been Britain's prime minister for only a few weeks, but is already facing a monumental task to fulfil his promise to get the country moving. The economy is still stuck in low growth. Inflation and costs, especially for energy, are rising. The bond markets have taken fright at Britain's inflation and fiscal deficit. And Burnham's promise to help working people with cheap bus travel, tax cuts on energy and other social benefits will be unaffordable without huge cuts in the growing welfare budget.

So far, Burnham, after a brief holiday, has made a lively start. He has toured the country, and impressed voters with confident rhetoric and a lot more charisma than his dour Labour predecessor, Sir Keir Starmer. He has tried to move the centre of power away from London, setting up a subsidiary prime minister's office in Manchester, where he was until recently the mayor. He has promised strong support for Ukraine and travelled to Kyiv as his first overseas visit, reassuring the Ukrainians that Britain will resolutely defend itself against recent Russian threats to attack Britain directly.

He faces several immediate dilemmas. The first is what to do about Britain's overcrowded prisons. With more than 86,000 people locked up in jail, one of the highest proportions anywhere in Europe, and not more than 2,000 spaces to incarcerate any more criminals, the government recently reluctantly ordered the early release of thousands of prisoners before they had completed their sentence. This has caused outrage, especially as it meant that some violent criminals, including two young men who killed a policeman by dragging him behind their car, would soon be free.

Burnham has intervened to stop the release of rapists, murderers, sex offenders and high-profile criminals. But there is little he can do to halt the growing prison overcrowding, as Britain has closed several antiquated prisons and not built enough new ones.

A second issue is the continued influx of illegal migrants in boats sent by people trafficking gangs across the English Channel. The actual numbers arriving on Britain's southern shores from France has gone down this year compared to 2025, but some are now crossing in much larger rubber boats, with some 230 people from Africa, Asia and many poor countries arriving recently. Burnham has promised to crack down on the smuggling gangs, but despite rising public anger over illegal migration, has no clear plan how to stop this grisly trade in human trafficking.

His biggest problem, however, is the economy. Britain has simply run out of money. The national debt is running at £2.9 trillion and borrowing has now reached almost 100 per cent of gross domestic product. Interest repayments on government debt are almost as high as the total defence budget. Unless Burnham cuts the very big welfare budget – a deeply unpopular move with the left – he cannot afford many of the social benefits he has promised, such as cheap bus fares, without more borrowing. That would upset investors and the bond markets would punish Britain.

In addition, Burnham has promised to fund the rise in defence spending, although the huge extra sum needed to reach 3 per cent of Gross Domestic Product, as demanded by Britain's Nato allies, is unlikely to be achievable.

Burnham knows that the public mood is one of frustration. He is determined therefore that he will spend less time discussing issues and force the government to take more immediate steps to solve them. This means cutting bureaucracy, especially regulations on the environment and safety which make it almost impossible to get planning permission for big projects in less than three or four years. Burnham is to announce that local mayors will now have full powers to decide whether to go ahead with large housing schemes, offices and tall buildings in towns and cities. This means cutting back on many regulations, especially on protecting the environment. This will anger left-wing Labour activists. But Burnham wants to show that some of the Labour party's more ambitious targets, such as reaching net zero in carbon emissions by 2030, are not only very expensive but would place huge obstacles on businesses and hinder growth. One of the most notorious examples is the cost of protecting rare bats that have a colony in woods that are near to the new high-speed railway being built from London to Birmingham. Environmentalists insisted the bats should be protected from the trains. So, the railway is forced to build a protective tunnel that will cover more than one kilometre of track. This tunnel will cost £100 million – money that could build several large and much needed housing estates. It is estimated that the tunnel will save three bats a year from being killed by trains – at more than £300,000 per bat.

Housing is also a priority for the new government. Britain's population is rising fast – it has risen from 57 million in 1990 to 70 million today. This is largely because of immigration, and most of the growth is in the densely populated south-east of the country. There is a huge housing shortage. Prices are so high that few young people nowadays can afford to buy a house, and many are forced to live with their parents even after marriage.

One promise Burnham made before he replaced Starmer as prime minister was to move political power more to the regions and cut back the overwhelming influence of London. He will now work

at least a day a week in Manchester, where Burnham used to be mayor. Already some important policy units have been relocated there.

Foreign policy will not be a priority. There will be little change from Starmer's policies. Britain is facing the same problems – the difficulty in dealing with Trump, the need for closer relations with the European Union and the increased threats from Russia. He will continue the search for better trade and economic relations with Brussels. And he has insisted that Britain will not be intimidated by growing Russian threats to Britain and hostile attempts to test Nato's defences.

His main challenge is to make the Labour party attractive again to more people, especially younger voters. The two movements threatening its chances of returning to power in 2029 – the Reform party on the right and the Greens on the left – have both recently seen a loss of support and scandals over the behaviour of their leaders. If Burnham can bring disillusioned voters back to Labour, he will be in a better position to tackle the many tasks he has promised he will resolve.

Provide "a Welcoming Place to Stay"

St Helena Tourism issues 'Call for Accommodation' ahead of 2027 Marathon



St Helena Tourism is seeking guest space across the island—from spare rooms to holiday cottages—between 16 February and 2 March 2027

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Tourism has launched an island-wide appeal for accommodation as preparations gather pace for the St Helena Marathon in February 2027, dubbed 'the World's Most Remote Marathon'.

Following positive interest from international runners and their families planning to travel to the island, significant demand for lodging is expected between 16 February and 2 March 2027.

Tourism officials are encouraging anyone with available space—ranging from spare rooms and self-catering flats to cottages, holiday homes, and guest facilities—to consider hosting visitors and offering traditional St Helenian hospitality.

"Consider hosting a marathon participant and immersing them in true St Helenian hospitality, by providing a welcoming place to stay, help visitors enjoy our beautiful island and the warm community spirit and friendliness of its people," they said.

Beyond meeting immediate demand for the marathon, the initiative aims to expand the island's official accommodation database for visitors throughout the year.

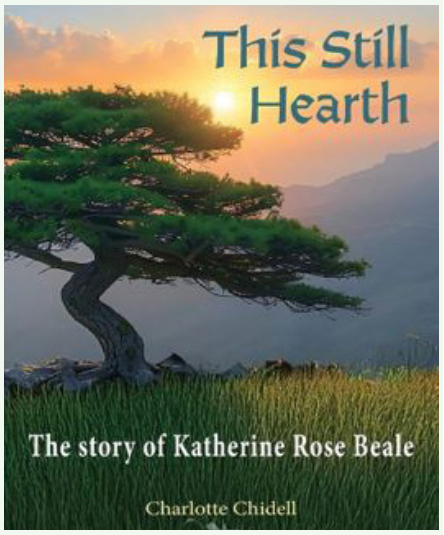
Local residents and property owners interested in registering or learning more can contact Katie-Raye Williams at the Tourist Office.



Preparations are gathering pace for the St Helena Marathon in February 2027, with high demand expected for visitor lodging

Book of the Week

Public Library Service



This Still Hearth – The Story of Katherine Rose Beale by Charlotte Chidell

Katherine Young, born into a family of master mariners, leaves her East London home in Regency England to travel to distant St Helena. She meets Anthony Beale at a Plantation House ball. They marry in June 1814.

For the Europeans, the South Atlantic Island is a veritable Garden of Eden, remote from world affairs and run with soldier-like precision under the direction of the Honourable East India Company. The men are employed in a civilian or military capacity and receive generous rewards. The women spend time in the congenial company of friends and family. All is not well in Paradise. Introduced goats and wild boar run wild and have destroyed large swathes of native vegetation. Ineffective farming practices ensure the islanders are dependent on imported foodstuffs. Underemployed drunken soldiers occupy scarce hospital beds. Hard labour is undertaken by Chinese imported workers or slaves whose lives are wretched. The catalyst, when it comes, is unexpected. Individual and organisational responses create an irrevocable ripple effect. The Beale's do not remain unscathed.

Employing an epistolary narrative style and drawing inspiration from Katherine's own writing, This Still Hearth uses metaphors and poetry to recreate Katherine Beale's unique story in a biographical novel that's sure to keep you engaged until the very last page.

Please reserve by contacting the following:-

Telephone Number: 22580

Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

Local and Overseas Bids Sought for New Prison

SHG inviting tenders, locally and internationally, for main construction phase of New Prison Build at Bottom Woods



An aerial view of the active excavation site at Bottom Woods. SHG has issued a safety warning asking the public to stay off the access road and development area

Liam Yon, SAMS

St Helena Government (SHG) has formally launched the procurement process for the main construction phase of the island's new prison at Bottom Woods – with tenders invited from both local and international contractors. This key step follows the ground-breaking ceremony held earlier this year, which marked the start of initial site excavation works.

The push for a modern facility follows mounting legal pressure surrounding the island's current infrastructure. In late 2024, the Supreme Court of St Helena ruled in 'Buckley v Attorney General' that conditions at the 1827 HM Prison in Jamestown breached fundamental constitutional rights regarding dignity and protection from degrading treatment. The judgment formally established that the government remains legally vulnerable while housing detainees in the Victorian-era facility, adding significant urgency to delivering a fully compliant replacement.

Designed in a traditional St Helena style, the proposed single-storey complex at Bottom Woods will feature a cruciform layout with stone-rendered exterior walls and a green gable-ended roof. Built to accommodate up to 60 inmates, the facility plans to centre around 28 standard single-occupancy cells, three enlarged accessible units, and dedicated Care and Separation Units. Beyond improved security and administration blocks, the modern development emphasises rehabilitation, incorporating educational classrooms, medical suites, spaces for worship, and dedicated outdoor exercise yards equipped for sports and horticulture.

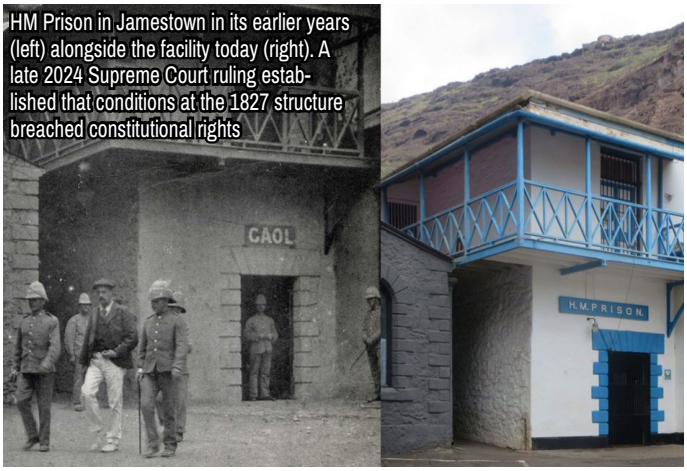
Funded through the UK Government's Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) in partnership with the FCDO, the New Prison Build represents one of the largest ongoing infrastructure projects on the Island.

Now, in the latest development, prospective contractors are being invited to submit Expressions of Interest for the main construction of the prison by midday on Monday, 28 September, with final tenders due by midday on Monday, 20 November. Notably, SHG has informed that the tender for this contract is also "being advertised overseas," allowing international companies to also bid for the works, alongside local contractors.

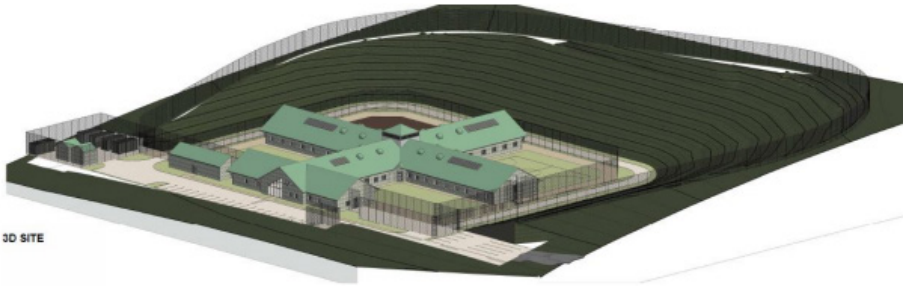
In other news regarding the New Prison Build, officials have recently issued a firm safety warning following reports of members of the public visiting the active development area, including individuals on motorbikes.

"We kindly ask everyone to avoid the new access road and main site, regardless of the mode of transport," said SHG in a public notice, urging island residents to stay clear of the development. "The area presents several hazards, including uneven ground, construction machinery, and ongoing site activities. Unauthorised access could also cause ecological harm and damage to the excavated area, potentially increasing project costs and extending the construction timeline."

They also alluded to the barriers and warning signs currently installed at the perimeter, while noting that the Royal Saint Helena Police will be carrying out periodic out-of-hours patrols of the site.



HM Prison in Jamestown in its earlier years (left) alongside the facility today (right). A late 2024 Supreme Court ruling established that conditions at the 1827 structure breached constitutional rights



A 3D render showing the proposed cruciform layout, single-storey design, and green gable-ended roof for the new Bottom Woods facility

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena National Trust

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

St Helena's heritage for all, forever



Join us for our AGM and be part of the conservation about protecting and celebrating the unique natural, cultural and built heritage of St Helena.

Date: Saturday, 19 September 2026

Time: 3:00 PM – 6:00PM

Venue: St Michael's Church, Rupert's Valley

Programme

PART 1: FORMAL AGM — **3:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous AGM
3. Presentation of the Financial Statements 2025/26
4. Appointment of Auditor
5. Trust Council Membership (No changes proposed)

PART 2: GARDEN OF REFLECTION PROJECT & SHOWCASE — **From 4:00 pm**

6. Garden of Reflection Project
   Presentation & Q&A
7. St Helena National Trust Project Showcase
   Show and tell stalls of our projects
8. Strategy 2026-2031 Consultation Stall
   Share your ideas and help share our future direction
9. Membership Information & Sign-Up Stall
   Learn more and become a member



Refreshments provided



If you cannot make it for the Formal Agenda (Part 1), please do come along for the Presentation (Part 2)!

Together, we can protect and celebrate St Helena's heritage for current and future generations

For further info

Email: info@trust.org.sh | Telephone: (+290) 22190 | Website: www.trust.org.sh

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. Sep 04
- 7am - 10am: Sunrise Show with Luke Bennett
- 9:30: Public Accounts Committee
- 5:30-7pm: OUT OUT! with Liam
- 7:30pm: Country Classics (Repeat)

SAT. Sep 05
- 9am-11: Indie Waves with Sue (Repeat)
- 1:00pm: American Connection
- 3pm: Country Chart Show(Repeat)
- 6pm: Artists through the Decades with Deon & Anita
- 8:30pm: OUT! OUT! with Liam (Repeat)

SUN. Sep 06
- 7am-noon: Sunday Show with Luke Bennett
- 1pm:Interveiw hour
- 3:30-5pm: UK Chart Show with Liam Yon
- 7pm: Seventh day Adventist Service
- 20:30: Classical Compilations with Anita

MON. Sep 07
- 7am-10am: Sunrise with Luke Bennett
- 1pm-3pm: Indie Waves with Sue
- 3-5pm: DNA with Deon & Anita
- 5:30pm: Country Classics with Donna
- 7:30 In The Know

TUE. Sep 08
- 7am-9:00am: Morning Show with Donna
- 11am: Vibes with Anita
- 2pm: 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. Sep 09
- 7am: Morning show with Deon
- 11am: Northward Sounds with Tony Leo
- 4-7pm: Afternoon Drive with Luke Bennett

THU. Sep 10
- 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





Wanna 'feel good' this Thursday?

Well, then there is no better way to start your day than with Liam and Luke on the 'Feel Good Thursday Show' only on SAMS Radio 1 every week from 7am until 10am

The boys will be playing those feel good tunes, while keeping you laughing with some good ole' yarns and banter all the way through!

'Feel Good' every Thursday with Liam and Luke!

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 'Easy'

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

Throwback Thursday



3rd September 1851:
'Country Church', later St. Paul's Cathedral, is opened for the first time.

(sainthelenaisland.info)

Well mummy's, daddy's, nannies and papa's - the struggle is back! The kids are back to school today and we all know the difficulties of giving them something tasty in their lunch boxes that they enjoy. It could be sandwiches, biscuits or chicken nuggets, but why not try this?

Pizza Muffins



Ingredients

- 400 grams tomato purée
- ½ cup olive oil
- 1 egg
- 2 cups plain flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons Italian herbs (dried)

For the topping (whatever you prefer):

- 1 cup grated cheese
- ½ cup diced ham

Method

1. Preheat your oven to 180 degrees Celsius (360 F). Grease a muffin tray.
2. In a mixing bowl or jug, whisk the wet ingredients together (tomato puree, olive oil, egg)
3. In a large mixing bowl whisk together the dry ingredients so they are well combined (flour, baking powder, salt, herbs)
4. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients. Mix until just combined.
5. Fold the pizza toppings into the muffin batter.
6. Scoop the pizza muffin batter into the greased muffin tray.
7. Bake in your preheated oven for 15-20 minutes or until cooked.
8. Enjoy!

Tips: You can also use muffin cases. Not all the time we can buy Tomato puree, but you can make your own tomato pizza sauce.

IN SCOPE: RECAPPED

The Island Pulse

Councillors return from recess with focus on cost of living, employment, infrastructure and accountability

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

The seven Councillors returned from the Legislative Council recess with a wide range of issues raised by constituents, businesses and community organisations firmly back on the agenda.

Speaking on the latest edition of *The Island Pulse*, Communications Champion Councillor Julie Thomas was joined by Councillors Robert Midwinter, Dennis Leo, Ronald Coleman, Derek Thomas, Dr Corinda Essex and Clint Beard to discuss matters raised during the two-week recess and at the first Elected Members' meeting following their return.

The discussion covered fuel costs, support for farmers, construction delays caused by sand shortages, employment opportunities, care workers' contracts, telecommunications, policing, school transport, tourism, housing, the cost of living and government accountability.

Fuel costs and pressure on the private sector

Rising fuel costs emerged as one of the strongest concerns.

Councillor Derek Thomas said that while the most recent fuel shipment had not resulted in the level of increase initially feared, further increases were anticipated. He urged Government to act proactively rather than waiting for the next shipment and then responding to its consequences.

Councillor Dr Corinda Essex highlighted the wider impact of diesel prices on St Helena's private sector. Retailers, farmers, construction companies and quarry operators all depend heavily on diesel, either directly or for transportation.

She said a significant increase could therefore have a "really detrimental impact" across the private sector and stressed the need for Government to consider mitigation measures in advance.

The possibility of subsidised fuel for full-time farmers was also raised. Councillors noted that farmers have invested in machinery to increase production, but higher fuel costs could place further pressure on their operating costs and ultimately on the prices consumers pay.

The proposal will be taken forward through the Agricultural Policy Working Group.

Councillors also raised the need to examine whether the current fuel-pricing model, developed approximately 12 years ago, remains appropriate for today's circumstances.

Cost of living remains a major concern

The wider cost-of-living situation continues to concern all seven Councillors.

Councillor Ronald Coleman stressed that financial pressure is not confined to low-income households, with low and middle-income families also increasingly struggling.

The Councillors have collectively written to the Chief Minister seeking a formal response on the issue. While discussions have taken place, they said they are still awaiting a formal response that can be shared with the public.

Councillor Julie Thomas said the potential increase in fuel costs made it particularly important for Government to consider what financial resources are available and how they could best be used to support households and businesses.

The Councillors also expressed concerns about proposed initiatives such as Child Benefits, a potential pension uplift and concessions for people aged over 70 using public transport.

Councillor Clint Beard said greater evidence and, where appropriate, means testing should be considered when deciding how limited public funds are allocated.

Councillor Julie Thomas similarly questioned whether sufficient evidence is being provided to Ministers or being requested by them, to allow them to make properly informed decisions, particularly when considering significant expenditure.

Employment and the Casual Work Scheme

Employment opportunities and the availability of workers were another major theme.

Councillor Dr Essex said that while temporary employment opportunities exist in some areas, such as care, these are not available consistently across the workforce.

With St Helena experiencing labour shortages, she argued that work on developing a meaningful Casual Work Scheme should continue, particularly for people who are fit and able to work but currently outside employment.

Councillor Beard, who chairs the Employment Rights Committee, confirmed that the scheme remains a priority. He is due to meet with the Chief Minister to discuss the matter and the wider work of the Committee.

Councillors also recalled the previous Casual Work Scheme introduced in 2020, which they considered to have had visible benefits within the districts. They stressed the importance of maintaining momentum rather than allowing successful initiatives to lose traction.

Care workers' contracts and pay parity

The new employment contracts for care workers were also discussed.

Councillor Coleman explained that Government had been working on the contracts for more than two years before bringing proposals forward in March. The intention was to create greater consistency in the terms applying to care workers, including working patterns, breaks and days off.

However, concerns have been raised by workers who feel they could be undertaking more work for less pay.

Councillor Beard also raised a wider concern about pay parity within Government employment, questioning why people undertaking similar work could potentially receive different levels of pay.

He said he would continue seeking a clear response and, if necessary, would raise the matter formally through the Council's processes.

Sand shortage holding up construction

A shortage of sand is causing significant difficulties for the construction industry.

Councillors reported that building projects are being delayed because contractors cannot source sufficient quantities, with one constituent reportedly having six of eight projects on hold.

Government has indicated that discussions are underway to enable another individual to pump sand. Councillors welcomed the development and said they hoped the process could be progressed quickly.

The issue was described as particularly urgent given the direct effect delays have on construction businesses, customers and the wider economy.

Telecommunications and renewable energy

Renewable energy and telecommuni-

cations remain areas where Councillors are seeking clearer information from Government.

Councillor Derek Thomas called for public updates on progress, recognising that some information may remain commercially confidential.

The status of Connect St Helena was also questioned, particularly following another transition within the organisation and uncertainty surrounding its licence.

Councillors said that both telecommunications and energy directly affects both households and businesses and that greater clarity is needed regarding future service levels, pricing and licensing.

Supporting young people

The work of New Horizons received strong praise from the Councillors.

Youth Leader Scott Crowie recently provided an update on the organisation's activities, including its efforts to generate additional income beyond the subsidy it receives.

Councillor Julie Thomas described the organisation's entrepreneurial approach as an excellent example of what can be achieved through initiative and commitment.

Councillor Midwinter also highlighted the potential for New Horizons to provide activities and space for older young people, particularly those aged approximately 16 to 21.

The need for suitable spaces and activities for older teenagers had been raised by constituents during the recess, and Councillors welcomed the prospect of New Horizons expanding its provision.

School transport and public safety

Councillor Coleman raised concerns about the absence of supervision on some school buses travelling from Levelwood.

The issue is now being escalated to the Safeguarding Board.

Other public safety matters discussed included a recent incident at the Bank of St Helena (BOSH) and questions surrounding police procedures. Councillors said they had sought information from Government and were awaiting further clarification before commenting further.

An update is also being sought following the investigation into the airport incident, with Councillors noting that information had previously been expected to be made public once the investigation was complete.

Diana's Peak and other constituency concerns

The prolonged closure of Diana's Peak was raised by both Councillors Coleman and Beard.

Both said constituents had expressed concern about the length of the closure and the lack of regular public information about what is happening.

Councillor Beard said he had contacted Minister Thrower seeking clearer communication, with an undertaking that information would be provided.

Other constituency matters included the availability of grazing land, the possible reinstatement of a slaughterhouse facility at Longwood and concerns about planning processes affecting small businesses.

Councillor Leo highlighted a recent case where a young entrepreneur had initially been told that planning permission was required to establish a business, only for the matter to be resolved as a misunderstanding within Government.

He said better coordination and communication were needed to prevent unnecessary frustration for people trying to establish new businesses.

Agriculture and local produce

Councillors also discussed the relationship between local agricultural production and imported food.

Dr Essex said farmers remain concerned about competing with imported products and that the issue had been raised with Minister Thrower who is responsible for agriculture.

An undertaking was given that the issue would be considered as part of the new Agricultural Policy and Strategy.

Councillor Leo argued that work should begin immediately on improving coordination between farmers rather than waiting for the appointment of a future Farm Manager or Supervisor.

The objective would be to improve information about what local producers can supply, helping suppliers and retailers better understand the availability of local produce.

Select Committee scrutiny strengthened

Dr Essex also welcomed approval by Executive Council of amendments to the Select Committee Establishment Order.

Once formally signed off, the amendments will enable Select Committee 2 to scrutinise Central Support Services and other areas of Government that previously fell outside its remit.

However, the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP) remains outside local Select Committee scrutiny because it is funded directly by the UK Government and is subject to scrutiny by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

Dr Essex said she considered the inability to scrutinise such an important programme locally regrettable, particularly given its significance to St Helena's infrastructure and capital programme.

The Governor has indicated that key information from regular scrutiny reports on EDIP should be shared with elected members.

Labour Market Strategy hearing

The programme concluded with an overview of Select Committee 1's sixth live public hearing, held on 28 August.

The hearing focused on Government's Labour Market Strategy and associated policies, including labour-market inequalities, increasing the population living and working on St Helena and preparing the workforce to support the island's long-term Sustainable Economic Development Strategy.

The Committee questioned representatives from the Education, Skills and Employment Portfolio, including Minister Andrew Turner and Angela Benjamin, with the Chief Secretary also attending to address matters relating to Government human-resource policies.

The hearing ran for approximately two and a half hours, half an hour longer than scheduled.

Councillors described the session as informative and constructive, with many responses addressing several questions simultaneously.

The full hearing is expected to be available through SAMS Radio's repeat programming.

Fisheries and the need for evidence-based decisions

Councillor Julie Thomas also reminded listeners that the Fisheries Situational Analysis remains available for public consideration and encouraged stakeholders to provide feedback.

The Fisheries Options Paper is expected to be published on 11 September.

She stressed the importance of understanding the findings of the Situational Analysis before considering the options presented by Government.

A recurring message throughout the programme was the need for clearer information, evidence and timelines from Government.

Councillors said that effective scrutiny depends upon having timely and comprehensive information, particularly when decisions involve public money or have significant consequences for households and businesses.

As the Legislative Council approaches its first year since the General Election, the seven Councillors indicated that securing clearer answers, measurable timelines and greater transparency will remain central to their work.

The message from *The Island Pulse* was ultimately one of continued engagement: Councillors encouraged the public to keep raising concerns, asking questions and contributing to the issues that affect the island, its communities and its future.

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

INVITATION TO TENDER

Underwater Habitat Surveys

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

ENRP14-2026/27 – Provision of services to undertake Underwater Habitat Surveys

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Should you require any further details, please contact the Contract Officer, Adam Riggs on telephone no: 25966 or email adam.riggs@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Monday, 07 September 2026, clearly marked **"Tender ENRP14-2026/27"**.

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

SHG, 25 August 2026

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

INVITATION TO TENDER

Crown Estates Ground's Maintenance

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

ED8-2026/27 – Crown Estates Ground's Maintenance

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Friday, 18 September 2026, clearly marked **"Tender ED8-2026/27"**.

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

SHG, 28 August 2026

NOTICE BOARD

Vacancy

General Assistant (Day Ops)/Relief Driver

Salary for the post will be £6,241 per annum (£120.12 per week) – 21 hours per week (Part Time Basis)

Job Outline:
To work flexibly across different areas of the Bakery by carrying out the daily duties associated with the packaging of bakery products, cleaning of bakery equipment and facilities to meet health, safety and hygiene standards, as well as driving duties for the delivery of Bakery products as and when required, whilst providing an excellent standard of customer service.

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess knowledge Food & Hygiene, HACCP and Health & Safety Awareness
- Have basic numeracy and literacy understanding
- Be in possession of a clean and valid Class D drivers licence
- Be able to carry out manual handling and repetitive tasks; have good time management, organisational and observational skills
- Be competent with operating production equipment as required
- Be able to undertake cash handling duties during deliveries
- Be able to perform cleaning duties in accordance with operational requirements
- Be willing to assist with production processes as and when required
- Be energetic and able to communicate and work well within a team
- Be committed to work unsocial hours and able to multitask in a fast past environment to meet tight deadlines

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

Miss 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 Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **Thursday, 10 September 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 Cargo Processing Agent

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 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 **Thursday, 17 September 2026**

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

NOTICE BOARD



ST HELENA NATIONAL TRUST

We're Hiring: Marine Project Manager

Full-time **£13,395 per annum**





Do you have a passion for marine conservation and a desire to make a real difference?

The St Helena National Trust is looking for a Marine Project Manager to help lead exciting conservation projects focused on whale sharks, seahorses, devil rays and seabirds, while supporting long-term marine monitoring across St Helena.

Applicant must have strong organisational and communication skills, attention to detail, and a passion for conservation. Experience in ecological monitoring or conservation project delivery is desirable, and all scuba and technical training required for the role will be provided.

This is a fantastic opportunity to work with local and international conservation partners and contribute to protecting one of the world's most unique marine environments.

For more information,
email: neil.thorp@trust.org.sh Tel:22307

To request an application form and job description,
email: amanda.constantine@trust.org.sh Tel:22190

Closing date:
Midnight, Friday 11 September 2026

NOTICE BOARD

CONNECT SAINT HELENA LTD ANNOUNCES AN EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is pleased to announce that we are currently recruiting a skilled person that will help provide engineering design expertise and technical support across the business.

- **Civil Engineer – Non-Revenue Water Coordinator**

The Civil Engineer/Non-Revenue Water Coordinator will lead the development of Connect Saint Helena Ltd's water management strategies, with a focus on leakage reduction and sustainable resource management. The role will also oversee wastewater systems, including sewerage design, rehabilitation, treatment, and inflow/infiltration control. Together, these responsibilities will help ensure resilient, efficient, and environmentally sustainable water and wastewater services.

The recruitment process is now under way this vacancy is currently advertised on: https://rporecruitment.simplify.hr/vacancy/preview/jiganv **Closing date: 7 September 2026**

We encourage interested candidates to review the vacancy details and apply

25 August 2026

Women's Corona Society St Helena Branch

A new series of 200 Club draw started in June for 2026/2027

All prizes are: - 1st £25.00**, 2nd**£15.00 **& 3rd** £10.00
All draws take place once a month.

June 1st Faith Nicholls **TK no 7, 2nd** Amanda Constantine **TK 18 & 3rd** Norman Youde **Tk 51**

July 1st Zoe George **Tk 138, 2nd** Linda J Yon **TK 26 & 3rd** Brian Young Chubb's spring **Tk 15**

August 1st Courtney O Dean **TK 155, 2nd** P J Flagg **TK 61 & 3rd** Maureen Young **TK 171**

Members of the Society would like to take this opportunity to thank the Public for their support given to achieve our fund raising events and we look forward to your continued support.

Our thanks are also extended to those who attended the Afternoon tea on 19 July which was enjoyed by all, amount raise on the day was £202.00.

We are always looking for new members, anyone interested in joining are very welcome.
We meet every 4th Wednesday of each month at the Baptist School Room feel free to come along.
Our aim is to reach out with a hand of friendship and give some back to our community.

From Corona Society, St Helena branch "Thank You"

NOTICE BOARD

St Helena Government

FAIRNESS INTEGRITY TEAMWORK

INVITATION TO TENDER

Grounds Maintenance Services

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

ENRP13-2026/27 – Annual Grounds Maintenance Services at the Castle Gardens, Planted Areas at the Grand Parade and Bougainvillea Area at the Honeymoon Chair, Jamestown

ENRP15-2026/27 – Vegetation/Litter Clearance (Manual, Mechanical and Chemical) at Sister's Walk Jamestown

A site visit to view the works will take place on Monday, 07 September 2026, meeting at the entrance to the Castle Gardens at 09:30 for ENRP13 and at 10:30 for ENRP15.

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Monday, 21 September 2026, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

SHG, 25 August 2026

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Bible Studies
Tuesday, 8th September:
Baptist School Hall, 7pm
Wednesday, 9th September:
Blue Hill Community Centre, 7pm
Thursday, 10th September:
Sandy Bay Chapel, 5.30pm

SPECIAL EVENTS
Adventure Kids – Age 6 – 10 yrs old
In recess until 26th September.

ALL ARE WELCOME

For further information contact: Tel No 24644

DIOCESE OF SAINT HELENA

The Parish of St Paul's		
Sunday 6th September 2026 - 23rd Sunday of the Year		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist/Junior Church	Cathedral
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
	Tuesday 8th September	
7.00 p.m.	**Mission Praise and Worship**	**Sandy Bay Community Centre**
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 6th September 2026 – 23rd Sunday of the Year		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Michael
	Monday 7th September	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist	St Mary
	Thursday 10th September	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 6th September – 18th Sunday of the Year		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 8th September	
7.00 p.m.	Bible School on Wheels	St Mark

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.

Terrestrial Conservation Officer
(£16,248 per annum)

The Terrestrial Conservation Officer will play a crucial role in fostering the Island's prosperity by implementing the Environment, Natural Resources and Planning Portfolio's (ENRP) terrestrial conservation programme, aimed at preserving St Helena's unique terrestrial biodiversity, endemic species and natural ecosystems. This position will provide operational direction and support for the Terrestrial Conservation Section, using sound restoration ecology knowledge to guide the delivery of habitat restoration, invasive species management and endemic species recovery programmes. The post holder will maintain a regular and visible presence in the field, working closely with the Species and Habitats Teams to support effective conservation delivery.

The post holder will support the Head of Nature Conservation in the strategic development of the terrestrial conservation programme, ensuring that practical conservation delivery, monitoring, research and scientific evidence inform long-term conservation management. The post holder will also manage and support to the Nursery Officer and Habitat Chargehands, working closely with them to coordinate the delivery of the Species and Habitats Teams' work programmes and build on the considerable practical knowledge and experience within the teams. The role also includes programme and project implementation, habitat restoration and species conservation, reporting, communications and outreach activities, and maintaining effective relationships with local and international stakeholders and conservation partners associated with the work of the Terrestrial Conservation Section (TCS).

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries:	**Elizabeth Clingham on Tel No. 24724 or Email: elizabeth.clingham@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**09 September 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**14 September 2026**
Interview date:	**23 September 2026**

Mental Health Support Worker
(£11,604 per annum)

We are seeking to recruit a Mental Health Support Worker. This role is based within the multi-agency partnership support for the development of early intervention, direct support and the improved outcomes for patients and service users alike. The post holder will enable the early help approach from a mental health perspective across the multi-agency partnership, which will include Health, Social Care, Education and community-based services. This could involve working in facilities such as the Hospital, Community Care Complex (CCC), Sheltered Accommodation, Schools, Prison or wherever you are required in order to perform the role.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries:	**Ian Rummery on Tel No. 22500 or Email: ian.rummery@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**09 September 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**14 September 2026**
Interview date:	**23 September 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

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.

Customs/Immigration Officer
(£11,604 per annum)

If you're looking for a challenge, have an inquisitive mind and see yourself working as part of a team why not join the Customs and Immigration team. We need you on the front line where you will be required to help reduce threats to the border integrity of St Helena, by protecting the borders of St Helena by performing anti-smuggling duties, detecting prohibited and restricted goods entering and leaving the island and to ensure the effective control of passengers, crew and cargo on St Helena in accordance with the Customs & Excise Ordinance and associated legislation. This is a critical and demanding role where you will interact with the public on a daily basis.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Juliette O'Dean on Tel No.22287 or Email: juliette.odean@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 09 September 2026
Assessment date: 14 September 2026
Shortlisting date: 16 September 2026
Interview date: 25 September 2026

Personal Assistant to HE the Governor
(£13,569 per annum)

We are looking for a Personal Assistant to the Governor to coordinate the Governor's schedule, prioritising meeting requests based on their significance and urgency, as well as arranging teleconferences and meetings with officials overseas. This role involves one-on-one discussions with Elected Members, senior managers, visiting consultants, advisors, media representatives, foreign nationals, as well as members of the public. In addition, the role involves co-ordination of the Governor's official entertainment and provision of administrative support to the Head of the Governor's Office.

The successful candidate will work alongside the current postholder for a short period of time to ensure a smooth transition.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Carol Henry on Tel No. 22470 or Email: carol.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 10 September 2026
Shortlisting date: 15 September 2026
Interview date: 24 September 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

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.

Sister/Midwife – (£18,123 per annum)
Senior Staff Nurse/Midwife – (£14,956 per annum)
Staff Nurse – (£13,569 per annum)
Healthcare Assistant – (£10,088 per annum)

The Hospital Nursing team currently have opportunities for motivated individuals to join their team of nurses.

You will be responsible for delivering high quality evidence based nursing care within the hospital setting under the direction of the Chief Nursing Officer and Senior Nursing team. You will be required to provide an efficient and effective nursing service to our community, through assessments, implementation and evaluation of care. As a Nurse you will be required to provide deep empathy, strong communication, and sharp critical thinking to deliver safe, patient-centred care.

If you are passionate about making a positive difference in someone's care then we would like to hear from you. For more information about these roles or to arrange an informal discussion about the roles, please contact us.

Enquiries:	**Erika Bowers on Tel No. 22500 or Email: erika.bowers@sainthelena.gov.sh**
Closing date:	**15 September 2026**
Shortlisting date:	**18 September 2026**
Interview date:	**28 September 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

Island Minds Foundation

THERAPY FUNDING GUIDE

Helping you access therapy when cost is a barrier

The Island Minds Foundation is a St Helena charity that helps people access therapy and counselling when financial circumstances make it difficult to afford private support.

We also raise awareness of mental health and promote wellbeing across our community.
All information shared with us is treated with care and confidentiality.

Please Note:

Island Minds Foundation is not a crisis or emergency service.

If you or someone else is at immediate risk of harm, contact the Emergency Services.

HOW FUNDING WORKS

- Only pre-approved standard therapy sessions can be funded.
- Funding is normally aproved in blocks up to six sessions.
- The Foundation pays the therapist directly.
- Standard therapy sessions attended before approval cannot be funded.
- If further support is needed, you may apply for additional funding after the approved sessions have been completed.

BEFORE YOU APPLY

1 Choose a Therapist

You choose the registered therapist you would like to work with.

Island Minds Foundation does not recommend or select therapists on behalf of applicants.

The choice is entirely yours (or that of a parent, guardian, or trusted adult acting on your behalf).

2 Attend an initial Consultation

Contact your chosen therapist and arrange an initial consultation.

You will need to pay for the consultation yourself in the first instance.

If your funding application is later approved, the cost of the initial consultation can be reimbursed.

3 Obtain the Therapist's Fees

Before submitting your application, ask your therapist for:

- Their initial consultation fee
- Their standard session fee.

Including this information with your application helps us process your request more quickly.

HOW TO APPLY

1 STEP 1: COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

After your consultation, complete:

PART A Personal Information

PART B Funding Application

You can request an application form by;

- Email: app.islandmindsfoundation@gmail.com
- Secretary: Natasha Bargo - 23163
- Download Forms A and B from the Island Minds facebook page

2 STEP 2: SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

You can submit your completed application:

- **By email:** app.islandmindsfoundation@gmail.com
- **Or by contacting:** Natasha Bargo, Secretary - 23163

Hard copy applications can also be submitted through the Secretary.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Application Review

Part B of your application will be reviewed by the Board.

If your application is approved, you will receive written confirmation explaining:

- The funding approved
- The number of sessions approved
- Any relevant conditions or review dates

Funding decisions are subject to the availability of charitable funds.

If we are unable to provide funding at that time, we will try to signpost you to other approriate sources of support.

YOUR PRIVACY

We understand that seeking support can feel personal and sensitive.

All information to Island Minds Foundation is handled in strict confidence and in line with our Confidentiality & Data Protection Policy.

- Part A of the application form (personal details) is stored separately.
- Only the Secretary has access to this information.
- The Board reviews Part B only, which contains the information needed to make a funding decision.

NEED HELP?
If you have any questions or need assistance completing your application, please get in touch.

Email: app.islandmindsfoundation@gmail.com

Secretary: Natasha Bargo 23163

Send a private message through the Island Minds Facebook page: Facebook.com/islandmindsfoundation



SAINT ABILITIES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, 21st September 2026, at 3pm
Jamestown Community Center.

Agenda

1. Chairperson's report
2. Confirmation of minutes of meeting held on 2 October 2024
3. Treasurer's report
4. Election of new committee

We look forward to welcoming all.

Refreshments will be provided.

Golf Report

Golfers Urged to Turn Out for Sunday's Big Club Day



SHGC, Contributed

There'll be a Texas Scramble Cross Country Choose your partner, the Half-Year General Meeting, and a Sponsored Meal all on the Agenda this weekend at the St Helena Golf Club.

Looking back however, it was another fine day for golf at the St Helena Golf Club on Sunday, 30 August, with good weather providing ideal conditions for golfers to enjoy the course.

Unfortunately, due to low registration numbers, there was no official competition held. Members are reminded that strong participation is essential to keeping the Club's competition calendar active, and everyone is encouraged to support upcoming events by registering and turning out.

As we mentioned, the Club's next event will be a Texas Scramble Strokeplay Competition on Sunday, 6 September, generously sponsored by Dr Annette Delacourt. There will be a shotgun tee-off at 12noon, followed by the Club's Half-Year General Meeting at 5pm.

The Half-Year General Meeting will provide members with an opportunity to consider important Club matters. The audited financial statements for 2025 will be presented, together with the Handicaps Policy and Dress Code Policy.

These policies have already been circulated to members by email and are also available on the Club notice board. Members who have not seen the documents and would like electronic copies can contact the Honorary Secretary at secretary@sthelenagolf.com.

A sponsored meal will be provided after the competition. Members are asked to register for the competition and indicate their attendance for the meal to assist with catering arrangements.

Competition registration closes at 3pm on Saturday, 5 September.

The Club is making a strong appeal to all members to come out and support Sunday's event. It promises to be a great day of golf, followed by an important opportunity for members to participate in the Half-Year General Meeting, discuss the Club's affairs and enjoy a meal together. Members are encouraged to get their names down early, and confirm their attendance for the meal. Let's make this a well-supported Club day and show the strength of our golfing community.

The Club would also like to thank Dr Annette Delacourt in advance for her generous sponsorship of Sunday's competition. Members join the Club in wishing Dr Annette a speedy and full recovery following her recent ankle injury. We look forward to seeing her back and fit.

Happy golfing!

SPORTS ARENA

Rounders Round 1 Round-Up

WSA, Contributed

As Round 1 of the Rounders League comes to an end, the competition has certainly delivered plenty of excitement, with the teams now separated as they head into the next stage of the season.

The Incredibles finish Round 1 at the top of the table, having played four games and recorded three wins and one draw. They sit on 11 points with an impressive 106 rounders, making them the team to beat as the league moves forward.

Close behind are the Ballzy Ladies, also finishing with three wins and one draw from their four games. They have also collected 11 points, with 102 rounders scored. With only four rounders separating the two teams, the race for the top spot remains extremely close.

In third place are Battitude, who finished the round with two wins and two losses, giving them 8 points and 74 rounders. They remain firmly in the mix and will be looking to build on their performances as the competition continues.

Thunderbats finished Round 1 in fourth place with one win and two losses, collecting 5 points and scoring 25 rounders. They will be hoping to turn some of those close contests into wins in the next round.

Rounding out the table are the Catchdashians, who have faced a challenging first round, finishing with four losses and 4 points, with 17½ rounders scored. Despite the results, the team has shown determination throughout their games and will have the opportunity to regroup and come back stronger.

With the Incredibles and Ballzy Ladies level on 11 points, the battle at the top is particularly exciting. The Incredibles currently hold first place by just 4 rounders, meaning every run could prove important when the teams meet again.

Round 1 has set the stage for an exciting continuation of the league, with the fight for the top spot still wide open and plenty of opportunities for every team to climb the table.

Round 2 gets underway this weekend!

ROUNDERS LEAGUE TABLE

Round 1

POSITION	TEAM	GP	W	L	D	PTS	ROUNDERS
1	INCREDIBLES	4	3	0	1	11	106
2	BALLZY LADIES	4	3	0	1	11	102
3	BATTITUDE	4	2	2	0	8	74
4	THUNDERBATS	4	1	3	0	6	25
5	CATCHDASHIANS	4	0	4	0	4	17.5

ROUNDERS Most Catches Round 1

POSITION	Player	Team	Number of Catches
1	Kati-Rose Thomas	Ballzy Ladies	9
2	Keeley Yon	Thunderbats	6
3	Charlotte Williams	Ballzy Ladies	5
3	Justine Green	Battitude	5
3	Danni Thomas	Ballzy Ladies	5
4	Nicola Constantine	Ballzy Ladies	4
4	Barbara Osborne	Incredibles	4
4	Chloe Thomas	Incredibles	4
4	April Stevens	Incredibles	4
4	Rachel Braaf	Catchdashians	4
5	Renae Coleman	Ballzy Ladies	3
5	Georgia Bennett	Battitude	3
5	Jordana Crowie	Catchdashians	3

ROUNDERS Most Rounders Round 1

POSITION	Player	Team	Number of Rounders
1	Kati-Rose Thomas	Ballzy Ladies	23.5
2	Danni Thomas	Ballzy Ladies	16
2	Laila Clarke	Incredibles	16
3	Chloe Thomas	Incredibles	15
3	Rhiann Joshua	Incredibles	15
4	Charlotte Williams	Ballzy Ladies	14
5	Sara Thomas	Incredibles	12
5	Barbara Osborne	Incredibles	12
6	Tanisha Benjamin	Incredibles	11.5
7	Whitney Young	Battitude	9.5
8	Katelyn Benjamin	Ballzy Ladies	8
8	Justine Green	Battitude	8
8	Renae Coleman	Ballzy Ladies	8
8	Alfreda Yon	Battitude	8
8	Bethany Bennett	Battitude	8
9	Anna Samuel	Thunderbats	6.5
9	Georgia Bennet	Battitude	6.5
10	Qhi Green	Battitude	5.5
10	Selena Leo	Thunderbats	5.5

ROUNDERS LEAGUE FIXTURES

Sunday, 06 September 2026

13:30 — Incredibles vs Battitude — UMPIRE: T & C

15:00 — Battitude vs Catchdashians — UMPIRE: i & B