

THE ST HELENA

INDEPENDENT

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STARLINK FREEDOM DAY

When Will We Have Ours?

See Page 4

Supporting our Carers - See Page 5

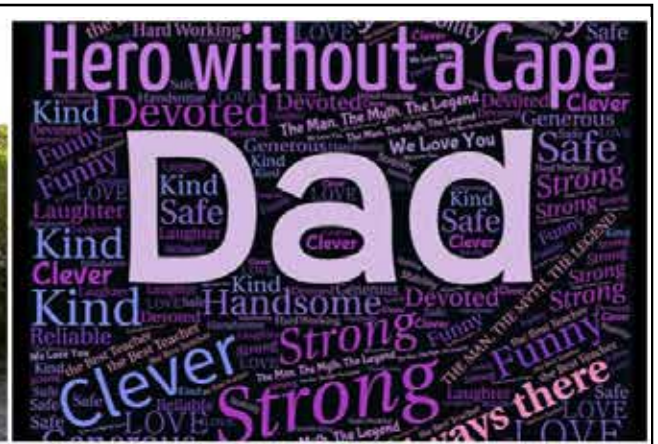
Yacht Club Volunteers at Forefront of Seafront Development



Can You Help?



Celebrating Father's Day





Happy Father's Day

Today we honor all the fathers in our life...

Grandfathers
Dads
Step-Dads
Adoptive Dads
Dads-In-Law
Pet Dads

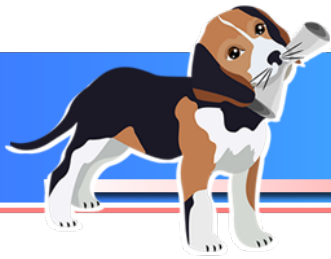
New Dads
Godfathers
Dads in Heaven
Expecting Dads
Honorary Dads

www.mindandheart.com.au/fathersday



SOME
Super
Heroes
Don't have
CAPES...
They are
called **DAD**





EDITORIAL

With the approval of everyone, Wednesday 10th June was declared Starlink Freedom Day in the Falklands. This means that after heavy and sustained public pressure the Falklands Government have made Starlink telecommunications accessible to everyone who lives there. Previously, access to Starlink was heavily restricted and enormously expensive. A licence for the kind of antenna needed to receive Starlink cost £5,400 a year. Before the end of this month, it will now be officially reduced to £180. Anyone will be able to apply for a licence to use Starlink communications. Until now, licences were only available to a select few.



STARLINK FREEDOM DAY

In their press statement, the Falkland Islands Government announced, "The balance is no longer in favour of a single supplier, as more than one supplier of internet service provision offers mitigation against the possibility of service disruption." The press release also explained, "These decisions follow widespread public demand for more affordable and accessible broadband solutions and mark a significant step towards expanding access to alternative broadband options, while ensuring continued delivery of core telecommunications services to all residents."

The Falklands Government have resisted public pressure since May 2024. However public opinion was strong, sustained and applied with pressure until the government could resist it no longer. After seemingly endless consultations and reviews the government realised they had no wriggle-room left and needed to give in. The Starlink Petition Group, the channel for all the public pressure, commented in their press release, "With the Sure South Atlantic exclusive telecommunications licence set to expire on December 29, 2027, the Government has already begun a significant initiative to shape the future of telecommunications in the Falkland Islands—one that could set a global benchmark for remote island connectivity. Starlink approval is but the first step." The Falklands Government now realise at last that having a single telecoms supplier is not in anyone's interest, apart from the single supplier, and that alternative broadband options are in the interests of all residents. Falklanders now feel confident they will have communications which befit the 21st century.

The Equiano cable was landed at Rupert's Bay in August 2021. At that time St Helena's fibre-optic cable was the envy of Falklanders, but it was downhill all the way after that. We did not get any material benefit from it until October 2023 when Sure introduced the new broadband packages we pay today. Apart from lower prices, the benefit of the fibre-optic cable is still to be enjoyed. Buffering and timing out seems more frequent now than ever before. Falklanders now have big smiles while Saints curse another Big Mess.

In his Budget Speech this year, Mark Brooks said, "We approved a new Telecommunications and Networks Services Policy. Legislation for a modern telecoms framework is drafted and this is intended to come to this House in June." There has not been one word spoken about what this 'modern telecoms framework' is, or how it will be operate.

Have we got rid of the burden of monopoly ownership which Sure have exploited and Cable & Wireless before them? Can we trust SHG not to preside over another Maestro Mess? Why are they so secretive? What is there to Hide? Past experience tells us SHG are following a familiar pattern. The result normally is that we have more to pay to sort out yet another mess. Genuinely, the lack of confidence Saints have in the government has reached crisis point.

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submit adverts and copy
by 1pm on Wednesdays.
Later requests subject to
available space.**



Carers Week is about individuals, communities and organisations coming together to raise awareness about unpaid carers, share good practice and promote change. Carers deserve not only recognition, but real practical support that allows them and the people they care for to thrive.

- * Current and former carers can have a mental or physical health condition develop or become worse since caring
- * Current and former carers face disadvantages in looking after their own physical or mental health
- * Current and former carers who'd had to postpone or cancel their own appointments, tests, scans, treatments or therapies said this was because they couldn't find an appointment at a time they could attend
- * current and former carers face disadvantages in their ability to enjoy a social life
- * Current and former carers face disadvantages in relation to their finances
- * Current and former carers said that more financial support from the Government would be the main thing to help address the disadvantages they face
- * Current and former carers have struggled to look after their own health and wellbeing
- * Current or former carers have developed a new mental or physical health condition since they started caring
- * Current and former carers in lower socio-economic groups care for 50 or more hours a week, compared with 9% in the higher groups

From a report compiled by; -



New Statistics on How Much You Get Paid

- Overall, wages rose faster than incomes
- The gap between high and low earners has narrowed
- The gender pay-gap has almost disappeared
- Full-time workforce is shrinking
- Almost all low-paid workers now pay income tax

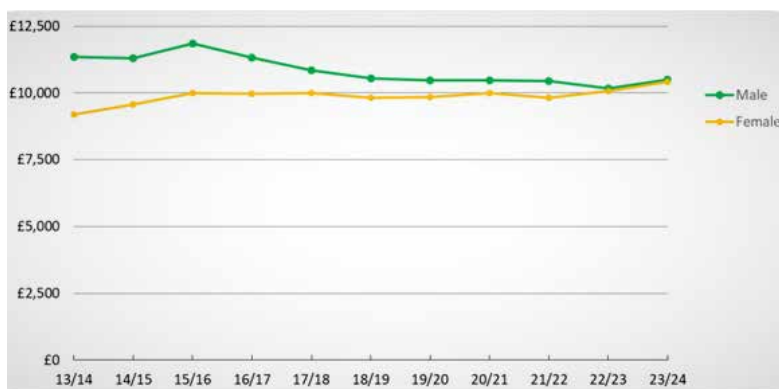
The first thing to remember about statistics is to know what you are looking at. The stats on Average Incomes from Full-time Employment shows incomes recorded through the Pay-As-You-Earn (PAYE) tax collection system. Not included are company and self-employment incomes and incomes of Technical Cooperation (TC) Officers of the St Helena Government, or investment income. This means that some high earners are not included. Pay as you earn income tax also excludes Income Related Benefits and incomes from pensions (including the Basic Island Pension), and part-time and part-year incomes. This means some low-income people are excluded.

The figures do not give the full picture and should be taken with a good 'pinch of salt'. Probably a spoonful of salt, (and salt is the major factor in increases blood pressure and responsible for many strokes and heart attacks). On the other hand, the figures compare like-for-like over a period of ten years and can be taken as an indication of the overall trend for what people earn.

The income statistics take into account price inflation and are for 2023-24; they tell us what the situation was fifteen months ago. Compared with the previous year, and taking into account cost of living increases, the median, or midpoint value of incomes earned was 3.8% higher. So, half the people earning full-time wages from non-TC employment had gross wages that were less than £10,490, and half had gross wages that were higher.

Digging a little deeper into the figures, while most income earners had a real increase after price inflation of around 3%, the highest earners saw a decrease in income of around 1%.

The gap between what men are paid compared to women has narrowed in recent years. This gap has reduced to almost nothing in 2022/23 and 2023/24.

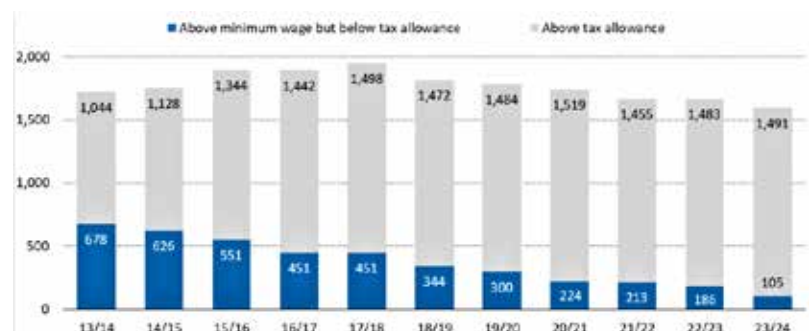


The number of people in full time employment has fallen slightly each year. In 2021-22 there were an estimated 1,668 people in full-time employment paying tax through PAYE. In 2023-24 this number dropped to 1,596, or by 4.3%.

Another continuing trend is the number of people required to pay income tax despite being on the lowest incomes.

All income earners pay income tax on all money earned above £7,000 a year. While wages paid have taken into account the increasing cost of living, the tax threshold of £7,000 has remain the same for many years. Every year, more people on low incomes earning more than £7,000 (£135 a week) automatically pay income tax.

Ten years ago, 678 wage earners at the bottom end of the pay scale only paid tax on what they spent, not on what they earned. In 2023-24, this number fell to 105 – meaning the lowest wage-earners have less to spend because they pay tax before they get their money.



Working Together with Blue Belt - Attenborough 100 Not Out - Ascension Birds and Plastic

The Blue Belt Programme is a UK Government funded organisation but its relationships with the Overseas Territories are probably closer than any other. Blue Belt claim to be “unique in



facilitating learning exchanges between UK Overseas Territories”. This is what they have done with marine officers in St Helena and Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI). Kelly Jonas and Peter Young joined some of the Blue Belt team when they visited the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resource Management on TCI.

Blue Belt staff spoke to Kelly Jonas after working with her opposite number in TCI.

Kelly was asked, what compliance and enforcement similarities exist between St. Helena and Turks and Caicos?

She answered, we both conduct landing inspections and sea patrols. One major difference is in St. Helena we have no powers of arrest like they do in TCI, but our powers to seize in both countries are similar and would get the same result.

TCI are quite strict with their regulations, and it was good to see the confidence of the officers when enforcing offences that lead to product seizure. It has provided me with a better perspective and more confidence when using my own powers.

It was really interesting to observe the restaurant inspections as we don't conduct those in St Helena, as the majority of our inspections happen during vessel landings. This could be a potential enforcement approach for us to use in future.

Another question, Prior to your visit, you wanted to understand how enforcement is conducted in a small community. Do you believe you have gained this knowledge during the exchange?

Kelly said: Yes. The officers are passionate about their jobs and the marine environment, and they know the importance of developing relationships with fishers and restaurant staff to enable them to do their jobs efficiently and effectively. The fishers and restaurant owners/managers know that the officers have to do their jobs, and from what we observed are cooperative with the inspections. The officers treat the fishers with respect, and they get the respect in return, they are friendly yet professional and believe in education then enforcement.

After observing enforcement actions in TCI that are similar to those of St. Helena, does it give you confidence that you are doing things correctly?

Yes, it does give me the confidence that we have been doing things correctly and seeing it happen elsewhere gives me the confidence to continue doing what we are doing.

Do you think a similar learning exchange would be beneficial between other Overseas Territories?

Yes, it has helped to build working relationships and share knowledge between colleagues from the OTs directly, and we can go to others for assistance if we encounter something we haven't dealt with before. Having staff from other OTs visit and shadow work would be better received by the community and fishers than staff from the UK, due to the similarities in our day-to-day work and the challenges that we face. In an ideal world we would have liked to spend longer on each island to be able to see the whole enforcement process from seizure to conviction.

What was your highlight during your time in TCI?

Seeing the work ethic of someone in a similar position to myself. It makes me excited about my job and I have found more confidence in myself.

The Blue Belt team concluded; We are delighted at the success of this initiative, and we will be exploring opportunities for further knowledge exchange between the UK Overseas Territories. This

Working Together with Blue Belt - Ascension Birds and Plastic

recent trip is part of our broader mission to assist the UK Overseas Territories in managing and regulating their marine environments. Our support includes providing training, innovative technology and the use of satellite imagery to detect and deter possible illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

Plastic Pollution Found in Ascension Island Seabird Population

With a total area of 91 km², Ascension Island has an ecological significance that far outweighs its size. This tiny volcanic outcrop is the most important seabird breeding site in the tropical Atlantic; supporting 11 species of breeding seabird, including the endemic Ascension Island frigatebird. Therefore, the potential impact of plastic pollution is a serious concern.

In a pioneering study, Blue Belt Programme colleagues in the Cefas Marine Litter team are investigating seabird stomachs from Ascension Island for plastic pollution. Specifically, they are looking for mesoplastics (items larger than 2.5 cm) and microplastics (sizes ranging from 1 µm to 5 mm). Through this study, scientists will gain valuable insight into the plastic problem and support future work to protect its seabird population.

The team investigated samples taken from frigatebirds, boobies, terns and a tropicbird. As expected, flying fish (Exocoetids), squid beaks, and turtle hatchlings have been recovered from the samples so far. Unfortunately, we have also found evidence of plastic.

85% of the birds investigated as part of this study had microplastics and litter within their stomachs. Of this, microplastics made up 11% of all non-natural debris within this study. Nine different plastics were identified in the samples, with polypropylene and polyethylene being most common. These are the most highly manufactured plastics globally due their wide use in packaging. Other plastics included polyethylene terephthalate (PET) which is used in plastic water bottles and acrylic.

The most common litter was cellulose-based items accounting for 31% of litter retrieved within the study. A range of materials are made from cellulose. Some are natural like plant material, some are man-made but natural like cotton, and some are so chemically treated that they are known as semi-synthetic. These are generally rayon, viscose and lyocell (synthetic silks).



A Brown Booby on nest made with plastic components

The entirety of Ascension Island's territorial waters is encompassed by its marine protected area (MPA). It is the 8th largest in the world, protecting a total of 443,571 square kilometres (171,264 sq mi). Within its limits, commercial fishing and mineral extraction are prohibited, making the MPA a sanctuary for marine life. However, the protective abilities of the MPA are limited when it comes to plastic.

Much of the ocean plastic within Ascension's MPA originates from far beyond its territorial waters. Analysis of 286 plastic bottles carried out by the South Atlantic Plastics Project, found that 92% of identifiable bottles originated from China. Additionally, hotspots have been identified on the southern coast of the island where plastic has been transported by ocean currents and accumulated there.

Plastic pollution poses a significant threat to

Working Together with Blue Belt - Ascension Birds and Plastic

marine life. Seabirds, like many other ocean-dwelling creatures, often mistake plastic items for food. In some families, 100% of species ingest plastic and are highly susceptible to this form of pollution. Sadly, some albatross chicks have been found with stomachs full of plastic fed to them by their parents.

Items such as plastic bags, bottle caps, fragments of packaging, and synthetic filaments can end up in seabird stomachs, leading to physical harm. The plastic doesn't break down easily, so it can accumulate, causing blockages or internal injuries. In some cases, ingested plastics can lead to malnutrition or even death, as the birds feel satiated without receiving the necessary nutrients from actual food.



A Frigatebird with fishing lure and line caught in its beak



Dear Editor,

I'm writing to ask members of the public to share their views with me on a decision that will have a major impact on the future of telecommunications on St Helena.

As most people who listen to Legislative Council meeting, MQT etc will be aware our current Government is proposing to pass a new Communications Bill, sign a long-term contract with Sure, and then develop the regulatory framework afterwards.

This "contract first, rules later" approach has been taken before on St Helena, and it has never produced good results. My experience as a councillor, member of the PAC and

someone who worked in the telecommunications sector leads me to conclude that if we move forward without clear regulatory protections in place before signing, we risk entering another long-term deal that fails to serve the public interest.

Compounding this concern is the fact that the Public Accounts Committee is about to release a report into the Fibre Optic Cable Network Project. The report is expected to raise serious issues about how public funds were managed, and it directly relates to the telecoms sector. Yet, the current proposal is to proceed with legislation and contract-signing before allowing Members—or the public—time to properly consider the findings.

To make matters worse, purdah begins on 30 June, and a general election is scheduled for 3 September. This means that the current Government could sign a long-term contract just days before entering pre-election restrictions—leaving a new, incoming Government to a deal with a telecommunications contract it had no part in negotiating.

There is another way. We could allow the current licence to roll over for six more months. This would:

- Allow time for the PAC report to be considered.
- Give space to develop a proper regulatory framework.
- And allow the next Government—who will live with the outcome—to play a meaningful role in shaping it.

So, as your representative I ask for your guidance:

Do you support the current plan to pass the Bill and sign the contract immediately and once again take we'll fix it after approach?

Or would you prefer that we take a bit more time to consider the finding of the PAC report and put the regulatory framework in place?

As your elected representative, I want to hear your thoughts before deciding which stance to support. Please contact me by phone, email, or in person. Your opinion matters. You can contact me at karlthrower@shgcouncil.com or via Facebook: Karl Thrower or simply speak to me when you see me or phone me on 61720.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Karl Thrower

Overseas Territories Day Didn't Go Unnoticed

Before 2nd June very little was said about Overseas Territories Day. In St Helena, nothing was said and there has not been an official word about it since. Do the Overseas Territories matter? Of course they do, but why doesn't St Helena celebrate one of the few alliances it has?

The first Overseas Territories Day was last year; instituted by the Cayman Islands when it was their year to lead the UK Overseas Territories Association (UKOTA). Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, Premier of the Cayman Islands at the time said, "UK Overseas Territories Day is a wonderful opportunity to take pride in the extraordinary diversity of the Overseas Territories. It provides a moment to celebrate the unique ties that bind us together as a Global British Family and to reflect on what more we can do together to address global challenges and pursue common goals." Has there been any serious effort to find what more the Overseas Territories can do 'together to address global challenges and pursue common goals'?



The UK rep for Tristan, Chris Carnegy, with Father Tom at Speaker's House

This year, it is the turn of the British Virgin Islands (BVI) to lead UKOTA. They have been rather quiet about Overseas Territories Day. The BVI Premier, Natalio Wheatley, posted a few sentences on Facebook for Overseas Territories Day but the photo of himself took up more space than the words written. Falklands and Tristan media thought the Day was worth a report and UKOTA made a half-hearted effort. Apart from that, the only thing visible was a church service and a reception in London by invitation only.

In London the Day was marked with Evensong at St Lawrence Jewry, a church in the heart of the City of London. Why does the church name have 'Jewry' tagged on at the end? Back in the day it was in the Jewish quarter – the church was first built around 1136; it burnt down in the Great Fire of London in 1666 which lasted for three days. The church was bashed about a lot in bombing raids during the Second World War. But it survives as the venue for the 2nd Overseas Territories Day church service.

After Evensong there was a reception held at Speaker's House, the official residence of Sir Lindsay Hoyle who has recently visited St Helena. This gathering brought together the UK representatives of various Overseas Territories as well as representatives of some of the many UK blue and green organisations that support marine



David Jeremiah with Kei-Retta Farrell, the UK Rep for Montserrat, on David's right, the Cayman Islands UK Rep, Dr Tasha Ebanks Garcia, at the reception.



Debbie Yon with Matthew Pendrey, a senior official at Lloyds Bank, who heads the Bank's Overseas Territories work.

and terrestrial conservation in the Overseas Territories. Also present was Father Tom, the Apostolic Administrator of the Falkland Islands and the Ecclesiastical Superior of the Missions for the South Atlantic islands of Ascension, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha. Father Tom's own parish is in central London.

The UK Minister for Overseas Territories was the first to make a speech at the reception followed by his opposite number on the House of Commons opposition

benches, Andrew Rosindell. The UK representative for the Cayman Islands also made a speech.

David Jeremiah, who was at the reception, told the Independent "The best overall impression of the evening was the camaraderie of those who were there from the OTs. A sense of having something in common. It was helpful that I was able to talk to people from Cayman, Montserrat, BVI, etc. from the point of view having been to their islands."

Next year, Overseas Territories Day will be on 1st June; maybe it will be a good excuse for everyone in St Helena to get together for another social event.

St Helena Yacht Club Appeal for Funds for Their Future

The St Helena Yacht recently started a Crowdfunding Appeal. They need funds to achieve two main goals; -

1. To establish a Sailing School – opening up opportunities for local youth and beginners to learn the art of sailing, build confidence, and connect with the sea.
2. To build a new Club Balcony – creating a much-needed social space where members and the public can gather, watch events, and enjoy our beautiful sunset.

Achieving these ambitions will include getting a range of work done:

- Restore a donated yacht to provide sailing classes for kids and youngsters.
- Rebuild historic balcony to be used as entrance to new balcony.
- Build new balcony to welcome visiting yachts, for sun downers and to be used for community events.
- Restoration of historic staircase.
- Repair toilet and shower area.

The Yacht Club is run by volunteers but it is in a prime position in the Bay as a venue for an evening out as well as a centre for sailing. The people who run the yacht club know this and have excellent plans for taking advantage to improve yacht club facilities when the cargo handling moves to Rupert's Bay. The volunteers need a little money from a lot of people to make it happen. Development permission for the construction work has been obtained and the yacht club improvement is ready to go.

Repairs and improvements were made a couple of years ago after a crowd funding appeal. This is the second time around and this time it is for something much bigger and better. The yacht club could become the favourite seafront place to go. All it needs is a little of your money donated to their crowdfunding appeal.

Click on <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/sainthelenayachtclub> and check out how YOU can help the St Helena Yacht Club provide one of the best sport and leisure facilities on the island.



Many enjoy the yacht club fish fry on a Wednesday evening – there could be so much more. . .

“MindingMyMind” - Helps Teenage and Young Adult Saints Check Their Mental Health: It’s in Demand

We have an update on the new website MindingMyMind.sh, that is all about helping young people on St Helena feel better and take care of their mental health. Just to remind you, [MindingMyMind.sh](https://mindingmymind.sh) is a free website made just for young people on St Helena. It’s full of tools, tips, and advice to help you deal with things like stress, anxiety, low mood, and more. Whether you’re having a tough day or just want to learn how to stay mentally healthy, this site’s got your back.



Making a difference

Even though it’s still pretty new, MindingMyMind is already making a difference. Since it launched in late April, an amazing 1,380 different people looked at MindingMyMind.sh in the first month. This is between 24 and 110 new people every day! The majority of people have been from St Helena, but there have also been people logging in from the United Kingdom, the United States, and lots of places in Europe, Asia and Africa. As the website does not collect individual information, we cannot tell you more about who and why people login. We’re just delighted that they do.

The other exciting news is that we are just about to launch and evaluate a ‘sister’ website on the Falklands Islands. We can update when that happens.

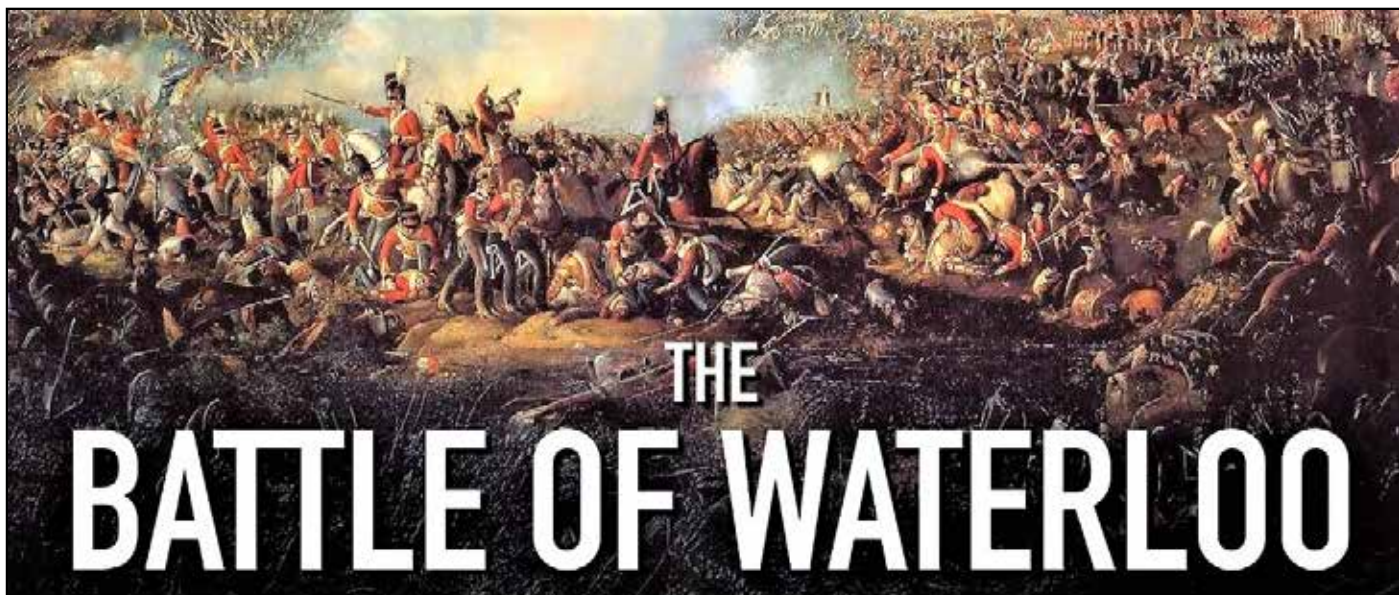
Feedback Please

Right now, we’re collecting feedback from users aged 16 and up to make the site even better. Your opinion really matters! It initially involves completing a survey online after you have looked at www.mindingmymind.sh. There is a second part, in which you can do a remote interview with Dr Tara Murphy on Teams to give feedback about the website and for your time, you’ll receive £10.

The website is funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office’s (FCDO) Overseas Territories Civil Resilience Programme and delivered by the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

Contact Info

If you are interested in being involved, you can email Tara Murphy (Tara.Murphy@nottingham.ac.uk) who will send you the link to complete the survey.



THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

JUNE 18, 1815

Waterloo 18th June 1815 – 2025.... So What!

The Famous Battle That Put St Helena on the Map 210 Years Ago

Generations of British have an innate characteristic to recall, commemorate and even celebrate historic military events whether on land, at sea or in the air.

Among the array of such notable and epic battles are not only those won but also those lost: the sack of Khartum in Sudan and Gordon's death, Isandlwana - Zululand. Operation Market Garden... the non-sanctioned & ill-fated invasion by English troops into La Plata Province, South America – today's Argentine & Uruguay....

It is worthy to recall this initial armada enroute called at St Helena for several weeks and with the 71st Regiment some hundred St Helena militia accompanied them, very many of whom never to return either being killed or as reported, deserted.

Of historic consequences was Emperor Napoléon Buonaparte's last battle fought at rural Waterloo (now modern day Belgium) against countries of the Alliance of Britain, Prussia, Austria & Russia (& The United Netherlands).

A well-known fact is that this battle led to his Grand Army's defeat, days later his abdicating and soon to his exile for the remainder of his life here on St Helena.

His exile here, ultimate death and temporary burial here remain to today one of the reasons for tourists coming here, if not the sole reason or a major one. In a sense St Helena was thrust into hosting the greatest military and political-social changing leader of an age with lasting consequences until today.

However, an interesting feature pre-figuring by several years the Battle of Waterloo is that for St Helena the third great military leader (the other being Prussia's Field Marshal Blücher), Major General Arthur Wellesley, later the first Duke of Wellington, following his requested permission in 1804 to return to England and leave the British Army in the Far East at the service of the English East India Company. Enroute back to England in 1805 he spent several weeks ashore on St Helena. His accommodation was in Porteous House opposite the present Mantis Hotel; unfortunately following a fire, demolished. It was in the same accommodation in early August 1815,

Waterloo 18th June 1815 – 2025.... So What!

The Famous Battle That Put St Helena on the Map 210 Years Ago

possibly in the same room as the Maj. Gen. Wellesley that Emperor Napoléon would spend his first night on St Helena. Little appears to be said of Wellesley's visit and equally the fascinating further coincidence with Napoléon and Wellington's ultimate clash at Waterloo.

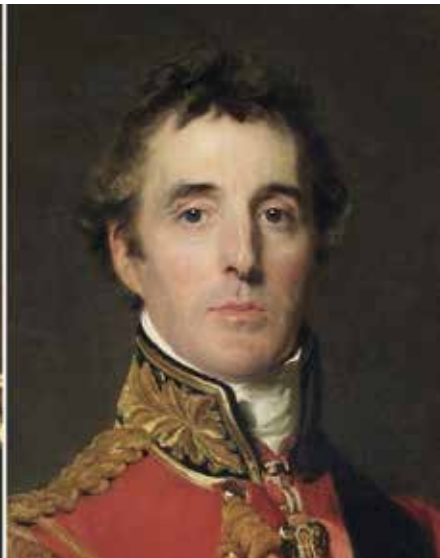
Perhaps often unperceived but the consequences of the Battle of Waterloo are woven into the fabric of St Helena history, as much as that of England, the Low Countries, Ireland and shared with the history and social fabric of very many other counties of Europe and beyond.

Wellington was to become twice Prime Minister of Britain and played a pivotal role at the time in the evolution of Irish emancipation from British dominant control of both civil society and the Catholic Church and the slow parliamentary & society's awareness of liberation of slaves.

Yet one senses most of such events and personalities have little resonance in St Helena life today; it is often said that ignoring the past endangers the future.



Napoleon



Wellington



Both stayed at Old Porteous House



In Memory of Alan Yon

It was a really sad day when we learned that Alan had passed away. We had all hoped and prayed for a positive outcome, but unfortunately it was not to be. Alan was a cherished colleague and friend, who Richard and Barry had both known for around thirty

years after having first having met at Lorrian and Terry's (Alan's mum and dad for those that don't know), when he, along with his then girlfriend and wife to be, Donna, joined them for a traditional St Helena lunch (well, more of a banquet really, roast potatoes, plo, numerous plates of meat and dishes of vegetables). As lunch turned to afternoon tea and then onto the evening meal (Lorrian and Terry were great hosts and also sadly missed), little did they know that the shy and reserved young man then would, along with Donna, go on to work with them and pioneer RJI's Falkland's operation so brilliantly twenty odd years later.

Our thoughts at this time are with Donna, Megan and Abigail, his extended family, friends, and all who are grieving this profound loss. We will remember Alan with gratitude, respect, and affection and he will be sadly missed by all at RJI.

Written questions, answers and statements



SOME MORE WRITTEN ANSWERS

From our UK Correspondent

As I write this, two of the three Written Questions asked by Andrew Rosindell MP as long ago as 20 May have finally been answered.

QUESTION: To ask the Secretary State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps his Department is taking to provide (a) financial and (b) technical support to enable the British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena to deliver (i) financial and (ii) banking services to non-residents.

ANSWER: The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) continues to work closely with the Government of St Helena to strengthen its financial and banking services, which have been identified as potential growth sectors.

The FCDO provides financial assistance through annual financial aid, which supports essential public services and economic development initiatives. This includes funding to help modernise the island's financial infrastructure.

The FCDO has facilitated access to technical expertise across the UK Government to help St Helena improve its financial regulatory framework. This includes support for compliance with international standards and enhancements to the island's banking services.

The FCDO will continue to engage with the Government of St Helena to explore further opportunities for support. The St Helena Financial Services Regulatory Authority is actively involved to ensure robust oversight. No sign of an answer to the question here. The question was about delivering financial and banking services to non-residents. This is not addressed anywhere in the above four paragraphs. So let us move on to the second Written Answer that we now have.

QUESTION: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether the British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena has a Public Service Commission to advise the Governor when making appointments to the public service.

ANSWER: St Helena does not have a Public Service Commission. The Governor works closely with the St Helena Government on public service appointments and in accordance with the St Helena Constitution. As readers will be aware, appointments to the Public Service are a 'special responsibility' of the Governor under the Constitution and, as such, are within his or her discretion. So it comes down to 'working closely with the Saint Helena Government', whatever that might mean. Which limb of the Saint Helena Government does this refer to? Elsewhere in the Overseas Territories it is common for it to be a Constitutional requirement that there be a Public Service Commission. As the Bermuda Government website expresses it, 'The Public Service Commission ensures that all appointments, promotions, dismissals and all disciplinary matters within Bermuda's public service are conducted efficiently, fairly, and without political interference.' The Bermuda Constitution provides that no elected member or public officer may serve as a member of the Public Service Commission. It is an independent body.

The third question, also asked on 20 May, for which an answer is still awaited as I write, is:

QUESTION: To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, pursuant to the Answer of 12 May 2025 to Question 49901 on Saint Helena: Aviation, whether the weather causing delayed flights includes wind shear; and whether this was identified as a potential issue prior to the construction of the airport.

As of 11 June, with more than three weeks having passed since this Question was asked, the Parliament website, 'Written questions, answers and statements', still reads:

'Asked 20 May 2025

Awaiting response: due for answer by 22 May 2025.'

It is tempting to ask whether wind shear off the Thames is causing delays at Westminster.

More next week.



As St. Helena grapples with declining student populations and staff shortages in its education system, artificial intelligence emerges as a potential game-changer for the island's young students who face unique challenges in this remote South Atlantic setting.

The Current Reality

St. Helena's education system faces significant challenges, with primary school-age population declining from 391 in the 2017 census to just 302 by June 2024, compounded by persistent staff shortages within the Education, Skills and Employment Portfolio. For students on the island, these constraints often mean limited access to specialized instruction and individualized support, particularly in subjects where they may struggle or excel.

Personalized Learning: Addressing Individual Needs

AI-powered personalized learning platforms could revolutionize education delivery for St. Helena's students. These systems adapt to individual learning styles, pace, and academic strengths, providing customized educational pathways that traditional classroom settings with limited resources cannot offer. For a community where every student matters due to small class sizes, AI could ensure each student receives targeted instruction aligned with his specific needs and career aspirations.

Given the island's focus on economic development and workforce preparation, personalized AI systems could track students' progress in real-time, identifying those who might benefit from technical skills training or academic acceleration toward scholarship opportunities abroad.

Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Bridging the Gap

Intelligent Tutoring Systems (ITS) represent perhaps the most immediate solution to St. Helena's staffing challenges. These AI-powered systems can provide one-on-one instruction in subjects where qualified teachers are scarce, offering student access to advanced mathematics, sciences, and technical skills that might otherwise be unavailable on the island.

ITS platforms can simulate experienced teachers, providing instant feedback, explaining complex concepts through multiple approaches, and maintaining student engagement through adaptive questioning. For St. Helena's young people preparing for further education or employment, this technology could level the playing field with their mainland counterparts.

Natural Language Processing: Breaking Down Barriers

NLP technology offers particular promise for St. Helena's diverse learning community. AI systems equipped with NLP capabilities can assist students with writing, reading comprehension, and language skills development. For young people who may struggle with traditional literacy approaches, these tools can provide alternative pathways to communication and expression.

Voice-to-text capabilities and automated essay feedback systems could support students who learn better through verbal expression, while language translation features could assist those from multilingual backgrounds in accessing educational content.

Assistive Technology: Ensuring Inclusive Education

AI-powered assistive technologies can ensure that all students on St. Helena have equal access to education, regardless of learning differences or disabilities. These tools can provide text-to-speech capabilities, visual aids for complex concepts, and alternative input methods for students with motor difficulties.

Screen readers, predictive text systems, and audio-enhanced learning materials powered by AI can transform the educational experience for students with dyslexia, ADHD, or other learning challenges, ensuring no student is left behind in St. Helena's evolving education system.

Implementation Challenges and Opportunities

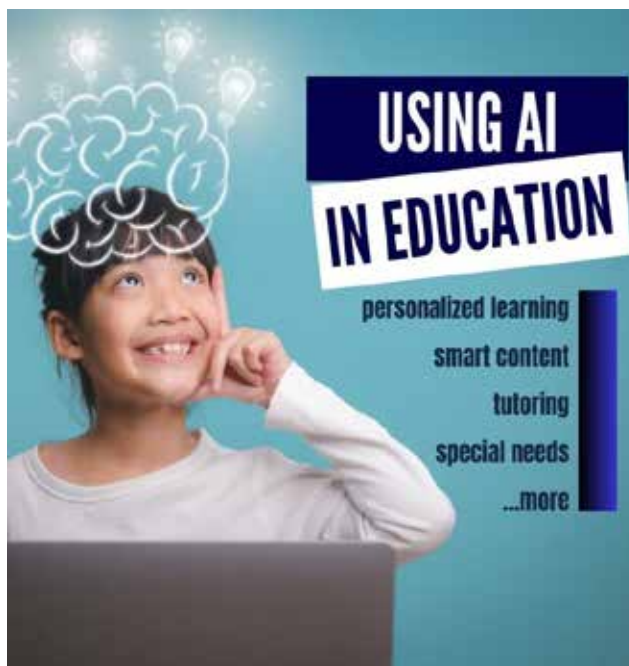
While AI presents exciting possibilities, implementation on St. Helena faces unique challenges. Internet connectivity, hardware costs, and technical support requirements must be addressed. However, the island's small scale could make it an ideal testing ground for innovative AI education solutions. Partnership with technology companies, grant funding, and phased implementation could make AI-enhanced education a reality.

Looking Forward

As St. Helena's education system undergoes review and restructuring, integrating AI technologies could transform how student on the island learn, grow, and prepare for their futures. If the implementation of these innovations is carefully integrated, the island can turn its geographic isolation into an advantage, providing world-class, personalized education that prepares its young people for success in an increasingly digital world.

The key lies in strategic implementation that complements human teachers rather than replacing them, ensuring that St. Helena's young people receive both technological advantages and the personal connection that makes education meaningful in this tight-knit island community.

The St. Helena Government's Education Review continues to explore sustainable options for the island's educational future. Community input and international partnerships will be crucial in determining how AI technologies can best serve the island's young learners. Till Next Time, keep Well!



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND



Diocese of St Helena

Sunday 15 th June 2025– Trinity Sunday		
8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Family Eucharist/Church Parade	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
The Parish of St James		
Sunday 15 th June 2025 – Trinity Sunday		
9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
Thursday 19 th June		
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John
The Parish of St Matthew		
Sunday 15 th June 2025 – Trinity Sunday		
11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	Barnabas, Levelwood
Tuesday 17 th June		
7.00 p.m.	70x7 Forgiveness	St Mark

Baha'i Faith

'Turn thy sight unto thyself, that thou mayest find Me standing within thee, mighty, powerful and self-subsisting'

Baha'u'llah

7pm on Thursdays
at the St. Helena Gumwoods
Baha'i Centre.
You are invited to consider the
Revelation of Baha'u'llah
in the 19th Century
and its application today.

Light Refreshment



**TO LEASE - 2
Bedroomed House
(fully furnished)
situated at Gordon's
Post, Alarm Forest.**

**Contact 24307 for
further information.**

**Baptist Church
Gospel Outreach**

**MAKE A
JOYFUL
Noise
TO THE
LORD**

When: Sunday:
15th June 2025

Where: Kingshurst Community
Centre

Time: 3.00 pm

**Gospel in Song
Refreshments
Preached Word**

sing!

IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM THE ROYAL ST HELENA POLICE

The Royal St Helena Police (RSHP) can confirm that traces of the **Class A drug Cocaine** have been found on the island. This is a highly addictive drug. It can have devastating results for those who take it and destroys communities. This cannot be ignored and the RSHP asks for the community to help in stopping this deeply concerning development.

The public are urged to come forward and report any information to:

- Police HQ Coleman House
- Telephone 22626
- Any Police Officer
- CID@sainthelena.gov.sh

Further information in relation to Cocaine can be found at <https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/drugs-and-drug-use/common-drugs/cocaine/>.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT PROGRAMME **PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS**

The Programme Management Office (PMO) will be holding public information meetings in June 2025 to provide an update on the Wastewater Management Project. This project focuses on improving the sewage in, Half Tree Hollow and Jamestown and is being delivered under the Economic Development Investment Programme (EDIP). These sessions will be held as a joint engagement with the PMO, Connect St Helena, and Environmental Health.

These meetings are intended to share the latest developments on the project and to gather feedback from the community. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and engage directly with the team responsible for delivering this important infrastructure work.

All meetings will commence at 19:00 and will take place as follows:

Date	Venue
Tuesday, 24 June	Community Centre, Half Tree Hollow
Thursday, 26 June	Museum, Jamestown

Tea, coffee, and cake will be provided.

Public participation and input are welcomed, as community views will help shape the future of this essential service.



The St Helena Autism Awareness and Support Group (charity number C0061) would like to share their monies raised for the period 2024/25 as of 31st May 2025.

Our thanks to everyone who contributed or helped in any way during our awareness month in April, when most of these activities took place. We will keep you updated on forthcoming events on our Facebook page. If you would like to join the charity as a member or join our parent's support group, please contact us on this email: autismsthelena@gmail.com

Monies raised

Donations (including cheque from Public Solicitor's Office): £1581.06
Paraphernalia (promotional material): £829.81
Mufti Day: £808.13
Multi Raffle: £510.00
Fund-raising events (Bakes stall, Quiz Night, Caleb's walk on Ascension Island): £1038.00
Bank interest: £2.30
Total: £4769.30

Expenditure

Adverts: £235.00
Paraphernalia (promotional material): £887.46
Remittance: £15.00
Printing: £39.60
Cash/Fundraising Event: £466.15
Tax: £0.23
Other (children's Christmas party) £210.38
Total: £1853.82

Total funds raised: £2915.48

'Restoring a globally significant Cloud Forest'

News from the St Helena Cloud Forest Project



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

Today we're excited to share the amazing work of our partners in the MET Station Bottom Woods, who have recently upgraded two of the Automatic Weather Stations within the Peaks National Park

As part of important data collection to advise and better understand the relation of cloud forest habitat to Island water supply, a number of Automatic Weather Stations (AWS) were setup in key locations within the Peaks National Park with UK Government funding.

As detailed by Murray Henry from the MET Station, while the original Davis Vantage Pro AWS systems served the project well over the past four years, an upgrade was required using the more robust HOBO Advanced Cellular AWS. These new systems record the same weather conditions as the previous AWS systems including temperature, humidity, rainfall and wind speed/direction, while additionally collecting data on leaf wetness, soil moisture and solar radiation - increasing the scope of data being collected through the project.

What makes this equipment even more impressive is that it provides a real-time look at conditions around the Peaks National Park and alerts us to equipment malfunctions sooner, while also supporting reduced footfall for pathogen mitigation. Here are the 'live' dashboard links which you can check out yourself: Peaks - <https://rb.gv/pdra7z>, Depot - <https://rb.gv/2m9h54>. These are in addition to the dashboard that we set up last year for the Mist & Rainfall Monitoring Network - <https://rb.gv/1zd881>.

Shout out to Murray for his incredible work so far in upgrading these AWS systems, with the High Peak AWS set to be upgraded soon. A job well done!

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

Scan the QR Codes below for quick access to:

Website

Facebook

Twitter/X



Warmly invites you to a:
**FATHER'S
DAY
SERVICE**

THEME: LEAVING A LEGACY

PROVERBS 13:22 'A GOOD MAN LEAVES AN INHERITANCE TO HIS CHILDREN'S CHILDREN, BUT THE WEALTH OF THE SINNER IS STORED UP FOR THE RIGHTEOUS'

DATE & TIME: 11AM, SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

**VENUE: THE ROCK CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTRE,
LONGWOOD AVE., LONGWOOD**



**Annual Property & Vehicle Auction including a number of
Residential Properties, Building Plots, Land and
Vehicles For Sale by Public Auction 29th July
2025 at 6pm, The Market, Jamestown, STHL 1ZZ**

Listed for Entry:

- Residential Property Near Hutts Gate
- Residential Property in New Ground
- Residential Property in Deadwood
- Four building plots near New Ground
- Building Plot in Deadwood
- Land in Sandy Bay
- 1961 Land Rover
- 2011 Honda 650cc motorcycle
- Morgan Kit Car

**New Entries Are being accepted until 30th
June 2025.**

**Property Information Packs Available 30th
June 2025**

All enquiries please contact us:

By email: derek@dps.co.sh

or Telephone: 00 290 25836

or WhatsApp: 00 290 67022

or visit us at The Market,
Jamestown, St. Helena,
STHL 1ZZ

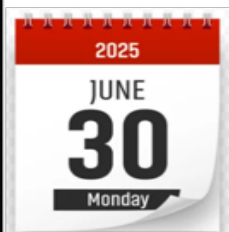




Tax Reminder

To all self-employed individuals, traders, businesses, and those engaged in accommodation rental during the 2024/25 tax year, please be advised of the following Tax Due Dates:

Tax Due Dates



- File *Annual Income Tax Return* (P50), *Annual Accounts* (e.g. Trading, Profit and Loss Account or Income and Expenditure Account) and *Depreciation Schedule* (if applicable).
- File by e-mail to tax.returns@sainthelena.gov.sh.
- Failure to file the Annual Income Tax Return by this date will result in penalties of £100 plus £10 for each month thereafter.



- Pay the tax due as stated on the Tax Calculation Table within the *Annual Income Tax Return*.
- Pay at the Bank of St Helena to account 61000003 or the Post and Customer Services Centre referencing your Tax Identification Number (e.g. THO0123IT).
- Failure to make full payment by this date will result in penalties of 10% of the balance owing plus 1% of the outstanding balance at each month end thereafter.

For assistance and to find out more about your tax obligations:

Contact us	Tele. No. 25880 e-mail: tax.returns@sainthelena.gov.sh Income Tax Office, 1st Floor, Post Office Building, Main Street, Jamestown
Visit our webpage	https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/public-services/income-tax/ Annual Income Tax Returns can be downloaded from the Relevant Forms section.



JUNE OPENING HOURS



Main Branch*

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

Airport Kiosk

Flight days only	10:30 - 14:30
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Remote Banking

HTH Supermarket	Tuesday, 24 June	09:30 - 13:00
Longwood Enterprise Park	Thursday, 26 June	09:30 - 14:00

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



info@sainthelenabank.com



+290 22390



www.sainthelenabank.com



Market Street, Jamestown



[@sainthelenabank](https://www.facebook.com/sainthelenabank)



Bank of St Helena Ltd

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The Annual General Meeting of the St Helena Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Jamestown Community Centre on Tuesday 17th June at 7.15pm.

The first item of business will be a presentation by the Marketing Manager, Sebastian Stent, followed by a discussion with him relating to the private sector's importance and the challenges it faces. This will be followed by routine AGM matters, including presentation of the audited accounts for 2024/25; President's Report and election of the Chamber Council for 2025/26. Refreshments will be served. All Members of the Chamber are invited to attend. If any other businesses wish to join before the meeting, they can contact the President, Corinda Essex, or Treasurer, Clint Beard.

The Chamber plays a vital role as the only cross-sectoral body representing the local private sector, but it can only work effectively with the active involvement of its Members so their continuing support is essential.

PHILIP JOHN'S SHOP ALL DAY SUNDAY OPENING

ON ASCENSION FLIGHT DAYS

This coming Sunday

15th MAY 2025

10am to 5pm



APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE FOR
HAIRCUTS/NAILS ALL DAY

TELE: 24555 EMAIL: shanna.john@helanta.co.sh

OPENING HOURS FOR THE MARKET BRANCH THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY 11th

12pm to 5pm

GEL NAILS, MANICURE, PEDICURE, EYEBROW THREADING, HAIR STRAIGHTNING/STYLING

THURSDAY 12th

10am to 2pm

GEL NAILS, MANICURE, PEDICURE, EYEBROW THREADING, LADIES/GENTS CUTS

FRIDAY 13th

12pm to 5pm

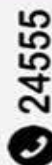
GEL NAILS, MANICURE, PEDICURE, EYEBROW THREADING, HAIR STRAIGHTNING/STYLING

SATURDAY 14th

10am to 5pm

GEL NAILS, MANICURE, PEDICURE, EYEBROW THREADING, HAIR STRAIGHTNING/STYLING
WITH A SPECIAL ON ALL KIDS CUTS – ONLY £5

PEAKS



Peaks Philip John

shanna.john@helanta.co.sh



*Ladies, Gents & Kids Cuts
Colour - Highlights / Quill / Roots
Styling
Braiding
Mani & Pedi
Gel Nails, Acrylics & Extensions
Threading, Waxing & Basic Facials*

A SPECIAL TREAT FOR ALL DADS,

GRANDDADS, UNCLES,

OR ANY OTHER FATHER FIGURES

(and of course a little treat for the ladies ☺)

GENTS HAIRCUTS

£8.50

& LADIES Receive a Wash & Blow-Wave for only **£5.00**

SUNDAY 15th JUNE

10am to 5pm



**FATHER'S
DAY**

**SUNDAY
15TH
JUNE**



PRESS RELEASE

UPCOMING TARIFF CHANGES

Connect Saint Helena Ltd would like to inform its valued customers of changes to water and electricity tariffs which will come into effect on 1 July 2025. The planned changes were originally mandated in the Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) Directive issued on 1 July 2024 and have now been confirmed in the URA Directive issued on 11 June 2025. These adjustments are part of efforts to ensure long-term sustainability, cost recovery, and efficient service delivery.

Water Tariff Adjustment

Water tariffs will increase by 10% from 1 July 2025. This adjustment reflects the rising costs of maintaining and improving water infrastructure, ensuring the continued delivery of safe, reliable water services for all customers.

Electricity Tariff Adjustment

The electricity tariff is made up of a combination of fuel costs and other costs (e.g. administration, maintenance, etc). Effective from 1 July 2025, the electricity tariff will vary based on changes in the price of fuel. All other costs per unit of electricity will remain unchanged. The electricity tariff could go either up or down, depending on whether the fuel price is increasing or decreasing. This fuel price adjustment mechanism ensures that fluctuations in global fuel prices are transparently passed through to customers.

Purpose of the Tariff Changes

These changes are designed to:

Support Financial Sustainability: Ensure sufficient revenue to maintain and upgrade water and electricity infrastructure while meeting operational costs.

Improve Transparency: Provide customers with a clearer understanding of how global fuel prices impact electricity tariffs.

Enhance Service Delivery: Enable continued investment in infrastructure improvements and operational efficiency.

Impact on Customers

The 10% increase in water tariffs will result in an additional cost of £0.21 per cubic meter, plus an additional £1.51 in standing charges per quarter. On average, a household using 15 cubic meters per quarter can expect an increase of around £4.66 per quarter (or £1.56 per month).

Electricity tariff changes will depend on global fuel price movements. Customers will see the fuel cost component itemised on their bills for transparency.

Customer Support and Assistance

We understand the impact these changes may have on our customers and are committed to minimising the burden. For households experiencing financial difficulty, we encourage you to reach out to us to discuss available support options, including flexible payment plans. For further details about the tariff changes or



how to manage your usage effectively, please visit our website at www.connect.co.sh or contact our customer service team at 22255 or enquiries@connect.co.sh.

More Information

The URA Directives are available via the St Helena Government website at: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/EX-GAZ-51-Utilities-Regulatory-Authority-Directive-amended.pdf> and <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/EX-GAZ-62-St-Helena-Utilities-Regulatory-Authority-Directive.pdf>

We thank you for your understanding and continued support as we work to ensure reliable, high-quality water and electricity services for all residents of St. Helena.

UTILITY TARIFF COMMENCING 1ST JULY 2025			
	Rates per quarter		
	CURRENT TARIFF	PROPOSED TARIFF	Increase
WATER TARIFF CHARGES			
<u>Quarterly Standing Charges</u>			
Domestic	£15.13	£16.64	£1.51
Commercial	£44.06	£48.47	£4.41
Agricultural	£15.13	£16.64	£1.51
<u>Domestic Use</u>			
Treated Water first 15 cubic metres	£2.05	£2.26	£0.21
Treated Water 16 – 25 cubic metres	£2.68	£2.95	£0.27
Treated Water above 25 cubic metres	£5.29	£5.82	£0.53
Untreated	£1.34	£1.47	£0.13
<u>Other Use</u>			
Commercial	£5.29	£5.82	£0.53
Agricultural treated	£2.68	£2.95	£0.27
Agricultural untreated	£1.22	£1.34	£0.12
WATER OTHER CHARGES			
Connection	£38.78	£38.78	Nil
Disconnection	£38.78	£38.78	Nil
Reconnection	£38.78	£38.78	Nil
DRAINAGE TARIFF CHARGES			
Domestic Standing	£23.96	£23.96	Nil
Commercial Standing	£37.83	£37.83	Nil



	CURRENT TARIFF	TARIFF FROM 1 JULY 2025	Change
DRAINAGE OTHER CHARGES			
Empty private septic tank (domestic)	£89.82	£89.82	Nil
Empty private septic tank (commercial)	£144.28	£144.28	Nil
Unblock private sewer line (domestic)	£89.82	£89.82	Nil
Unblock private sewer line (commercial)	£144.28	£144.28	Nil
Connection	£44.24	£44.24	Nil
Disconnection	£44.24	£44.24	Nil
ELECTRICITY TARIFF CHARGES TO TAKE EFFECT ON 1 JULY 2025			
<u>Usage Charges</u>	Commercial, Government and 3 Phase	Domestic	
		Below 1000 units	Above 1000 units
Fuel Component	£0.33	£0.33	£0.33
Other costs	£0.24	£0.24	£0.24
	£0.57	£0.57	£0.57
Less: Subsidy	(£0.06)	(£0.06)	(£0.06)
Add: Uplift	£0.06	-	£0.06
Less: Discount	-	(£0.05)	-
Total	£0.57	£0.46	£0.57
Expected Unit Tariff	£0.57	£0.46	£0.57
Current Unit Tariff	£0.61	£0.40	£0.61
Increase/(Decrease) per unit	(£0.04)	£0.06	(£0.04)
Note: The expected unit charge is based on the current wholesale price of diesel, which is £1.36, but will change if the wholesale price changes			
	CURRENT TARIFF	TARIFF FROM 1 JULY 2025	Change
ELECTRICITY OTHER CHARGES			
Disconnection	£44.75	£44.75	Nil
Reconnection	£44.75	£44.75	Nil
Empty Property Quarterly Standing Charge (Domestic)	£45.00	£45.00	Nil
Empty Property Quarterly Standing Charge (Commercial and Government)	£60.00	£60.00	Nil

12 June 2025



JOIN OUR TEAM

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, ST HELENA & ASCENSION

Sure is seeking an inspirational and strategic leader for the St Helena & Ascension Island Business Units

Person specification:

- Passionate, forward thinking with proven experience as a senior leader.
- Substantial commercial knowledge and experience, with a degree in Business and/or Management.
- First class communicator, experienced and skilled at influencing, negotiating, building alliances and maintaining effective relationships, both internally and externally.
- Distinctive organisational skills, committed, proactive and flexible working style.
- An inspiring leader and collaborative team player, capable of cultivating a team-orientated atmosphere, empathetic, and genuinely personable.
- Demonstrable commercial acumen with the ability to innovate and successfully manage change.
- Knowledge of Project Management.

Due to the nature of this position, the post holder must hold a Satisfactory Police Disclosure.

Join us and you can enjoy some of the benefits Sure offers: competitive salary, bonus scheme, company pension and continued professional development.

**To apply send your CV to
recruitment.SADG@sure.com
by 23 June, 2025**

We are proud of the way we do things

We work together as One Team. We strive for Customer Satisfaction. We are Reliable. We have a Passion for Technology & Learning. We are Community & Sustainability focused.

VACANCY



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

Credit Control Officer

Commencing at £11,748 per annum

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person to fill the new and exciting position of Credit Control Officer.

The Credit Control Officer will report to the Lending Services Manager and will be responsible for the debt recovery for Bank of St Helena by monitoring loan repayments and unauthorised overdrafts. They will also be responsible for educating and supporting clients to manage their payment options, finding appropriate resolutions to their payment queries or issues and negotiate payments and payment plans with clients.

The position will require the successful candidate to have the ability to identify potential debt risks, be able to work with the Bank's Legal Representative to initiate legal proceedings on non-performing loans via the St Helena Court system, be highly motivated, have a high level of accuracy, and good organisational and time management skills.

In addition, the successful candidate must be flexible to work demands, have experience of working in a customer service environment and ideally have a qualification in Banking and/or Finance, or be willing to work towards one.

Candidates should also possess:

- GCSE's in Mathematics and English at Grade C or above;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Experience working in Accounts Receivable, Credit Control or similar;
- Ideally having some understanding of legal matters.

Interested persons can contact the Lending Services Manager on (+290) 22390 or email lendingmanager@sainthelenabank.com for more information.

An Application form and job profile is available upon request from the Bank and can be viewed on our official website. Completed application forms should be addressed to the Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

Closing date for applications is Friday, 20 June 2025.

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



Bank of St. Helena Ltd.

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



info@sainthelenabank.com



www.sainthelenabank.com



[@sainthelenabank](https://www.facebook.com/sainthelenabank)



+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

VACANCY



Lending Services Officer (Commercial)

Commencing at £12,984 per annum

Bank of St Helena Limited is seeking to recruit a suitable person to fill the vacant position of Lending Services Officer (Commercial).

Responsible to the Assistant Lending Services Manager, the successful candidate must be flexible to work demands, have excellent customer service skills and be self-motivated. Candidates should have a keen eye for detail, exhibit high accuracy levels and have ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines, whilst working well with others as part of the wider Bank team.

The main duties of the post include:

- To ensure all loan applications received are accurately completed, all supporting documentation is included and that loans are processed in line with the Bank's policies and procedures;
- To ensure key principles of professional credit management are maintained and the lending service is administered in an efficient, objective and timely manner;
- Liaising with clients throughout the loan approval process, providing a high standard of customer service;
- Analysing loan applications in line with Bank's policies and procedures to ensure they meet the Lending criteria;
- Liaising with clients to ensure they are compliant with the terms and conditions of their Facility Agreements.

Interested persons can contact the Assistant Lending Services Manager on (+290) 22390 or email asst.lendingmanager@sainthelenabank.com for more information.

An Application form and job profile is available upon request from the Bank and can be viewed on our official website. Completed application forms should be addressed to the Human Resources Manager, Market Street, Jamestown or emailed to hrmanager@sainthelenabank.com.

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+290 22390



Market Street, Jamestown



Bank of St Helena Ltd

Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

Receptionist/Hospital Support Officer (£7,280 per annum)

Based at the Jamestown General Hospital, the Receptionist will work on a shift basis and be the first point of contact for all visitors; provide receptionist duties ensuring a positive and professional environment for the reception point. In addition to answering the telephone, directing and screening calls as necessary, you will be required to welcome visitors, direct them to their correct destination, maintain an awareness of staff movements in and out of the site, monitor visitor access and maintain security awareness.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Helen Lawrence on Tel No 22500 or Email
Helen.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 18 June 2025

Shortlisting date: 23 June 2025

Interview date: 30 June 2025

Mechanic (Fixed term – 2 years) (£9,781 per annum)

The Transport Division is seeking to recruit a Mechanic to join their team. If you are a motivated individual who has the ability to work independently when required and have a sound knowledge of practical mechanics and diagnostics with good attention to detail this could be a good opportunity for you. The role requires you to be fully conversant in applying health and safety procedures to guarantee the safety of employees and products/services ensuring that the vehicles and heavy plant equipment are maintained in a safe operational condition.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Theodore Fowler on Tel No 23643 or Email
Garage.Manager@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: 25 June 2025

Shortlisting date: 30 June 2025

Interview date: 08 July 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

To access job profiles and application forms online, visit www.sainthelena.gov.sh/governments/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.

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.

Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

Head of Health & Safety (£30,256 per annum)

As Head of Health and Safety for the Public Service, the role is accountable for updating and implementing Health and Safety (H&S) across the St Helena Public/Civil Service. Ensuring the SHG H&S policies, legislation, and procedures are fit for purpose, adhere to our obligations, and local laws. The person will proactively advise the Public Service on how to protect the health, safety and welfare of all employees in the workplace. This is a new role and the person must have significant experience on health and safety matters, implementing change from strategic to operational levels in diverse business environments. The post holder will ensure that health and safety is delivered in a clear, pragmatic and achievable manner for over 800 personnel across all business streams.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Alex Mitham on Tel No 25870 or Email alex-richard.mitham@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 25 June 2025
Shortlisting date: 30 June 2025
Interview date: 14 July 2025

English Teacher (Permanent) (£13,344 - £19,788 per annum)

Are you interested in working with young people and want to be a part of shaping their future? Then join the team and become an English teacher in SHSS. You will be responsible for planning, preparing and effectively delivering programmes of study in the specific subject(s) to a designated class(es) to cater for all abilities of students. You must have the required qualifications, be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people, have good communication skills and be able to interact with students, parents and colleagues.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Isabel Andrews on Tel No. 24290 or Email isabel.andrews@sainthelena.edu.sh
Closing date: 18 June 2025
Shortlisting date: 23 June 2025
Interview date: 10 July 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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

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Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

School Secretary (Permanent) (£7,960 per annum)

Do you have a passion for Education? The Education, Skills and Employment portfolio are looking to recruit a School Secretary in SPPS. The individual will play a key role in managing all administrative tasks related to the school, its staff, and pupils, ensuring that everything runs efficiently and effectively. In addition to administrative responsibilities.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Patricia Williams on Tel No. 24737 or Email
patricia.williams@sainthelena.edu.sh

Closing date: 20 June 2025

Shortlisting date: 25 June 2025

Interview date: 04 July 2025

1:1 Teaching Assistant (St Helena Secondary School) (£8,419 per annum)

Do you have a passion for Education? We are seeking to recruit a Teaching Assistant to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. The individual needs to be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and have good communication skills to be able to communicate between students, parents and colleagues.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Carolyn Yon on Tel No 24290 or Email:
carolyn.yon@sainthelena.edu.sh

Closing date: 27 June 2025

Shortlisting date: 02 July 2025

Interview date: 11 July 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

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

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.

Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

Fixed Term 1:1 Teaching Assistants/Support Assistants (St Paul's Primary)

General Teaching Assistant (St Paul's Primary) Fixed Term (1 until Jan 2026 & 2 until Aug 2026)

(£8,419 - £8,725 per annum)

Do you have a passion for Education? We are looking to recruit a Teaching Assistant to provide assistance to the class teacher by supporting teaching and learning in the school/classroom environment. The individual needs to be committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and have good communication skills to be able to communicate between students, parents and colleagues.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Patricia Williams Tel no's 24737 or Email patricia.williams@sainthelena.edu.sh

Closing date: 27 June 2025

Shortlisting date: 02 July 2025

Interview date: Week Commencing 14 July 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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

Applications should be submitted through the Director/Line Manager (where applicable) to the Human Resources Officer by email recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

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

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Vacancy

Trainee Electrician



Salary for the post will commence at £9,360 per annum (£780 per month), depending on qualifications and experience

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Electrical Works Department for a Trainee Electrician.

As the Trainee Electrician you will assist with in-house and private electrical jobs to complete them in a timely manner while ensuring high standards of work are delivered at all times in accordance with Company requirements and local regulations.

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess Grade C in GCSE Maths or English, or equivalent.
- Have excellent communication skills.
- Have a customer focused approach with excellent customer service skills.
- Have an aptitude for problem solving and demonstrate persistence when troubleshooting issues.
- Be committed to continuous learning and development in an ever-changing industry.
- Demonstrate attention to detail.
- Have a positive work ethic.
- Be self-disciplined and self-motivated.
- Be able to work effectively in a team environment.
- Have the ability to undertake physically demanding and manual handling tasks as well as work in confined spaces.
- Be flexible to work outside of normal working hours.

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

Mr Ian Gough, General Manager (Services & Properties) via ☎ 22380 📧 gm-services.properties@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hadmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Organisation & Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **26 June 2025**.

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

- ★ Pension Contributions
- ★ Staff Discounts

VACANCY



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is seeking to employ a Chief Executive Officer.

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the leadership and management of the operations of the Company and as an Executive Director will contribute to setting its overall vision. The role involves a high level of responsibility, with pivotal decision making affecting the future of the Company and its employees.

Within this role, the CEO will be expected to oversee the delivery of utilities services in St Helena ensuring that these are delivered in a cost effective and customer focused way.

EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES



- 3 years experience of working at Board or Committee level and contributing to Board discussions
- 3 years proven experience at senior management level with the ability to understand and interpret management accounts, financial statements and other relevant financial information
- 3 years experience Project planning and management
- Good command of English Language both written and verbal

QUALIFICATIONS



- Qualification in business administration, geography, law, engineering or a related field at degree level or above

BENEFITS



- A competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.
- 15% pension contributions of the base salary and 30 days annual leave.

For further information and a copy of the Job Description please contact Annalisa Young on +290 22255 or email Annalisa.Young@connect.co.sh. Completed application forms can be handed into the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: Annalisa.Young@connect.co.sh by **9:00am on Monday, 7 July 2025**. To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.



www.connect.co.sh/vacancies.html



[connectsainthelena](https://www.facebook.com/connectsainthelena)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/connect-saint-helena-ltd/>

Cricket Results & Fixtures*St Helena Cricket Association***Saturday 7/6/25****Wooden Spoon Final****Western A Mustangs 157/4(15 overs)**

Scott Crowie - 84*(47)
Gareth Johnson - 37(27)
Damian Burns - 2/19(2 overs)
Hugo Richards - 1/30(3 overs)

Jamestown Heat 143/7(15 overs)

Dax Richards - 63(39)
Damian Burns - 43(27)
Gareth Johnson - 3/18(3 overs)
Scott Crowie - 2/24(3 overs)

Player of the Match - Scott Crowie (Western A Mustangs)

Knockout Final**Challengers 131/7(20 overs)**

Jordi Henry - 61(43)
Cliff Richards - 26(28)
Greg Coleman - 2/10(4 overs)
Rhys Francis - 2/18(4 overs)

Sandy Bay Pirates 132/5(19.4 overs)

Rhys Francis - 43(30)
Brett Isaac - 43*(45)
Joey Thomas - 3/15(4 overs)
Jordi Henry - 1/23(4 overs)

Player of the Match - Rhys Francis (Sandy Bay Pirates)

Cricket Presentation Awards**35 over league - Runners Up Levelwood Allstars and Challengers Winners**

Most Runs – Scott Crowie of the Western A Mustangs (489 runs)
Most sixes – Andrew Yon of The Challengers (24 sixes)
Best batting average – Scott Crowie of the Western A Mustangs (122.25)
Most Wickets – Jordan Yon of the Challengers and Rhys Francis of Sandy Bay Pirates (14wickets)
Best bowling average – Rhys Francis of Sandy Bay Pirates (9.07)
Most Catches – Jamie Essex, Andrew Yon and Scott Crowie (6 catches)

T20 District – Runners up Levelwood and Winners HTH

Most Runs – Scott Crowie of Jamestown (311 runs)
Most Sixes – Brooklyn Fowler of Sandy Bay (15 sixes)
Best batting average – Andrew Yon of HTH (138.50)
Most Wickets – Greg Coleman, Barry Stroud, Andrew Yon and Chris Owen (8 wickets)
Best bowling average – Barry Stroud of HTH (10.63)
Most Catches – Cliff Richards of St Pauls (5 catches)

RMS T20 – Runners Up Levelwood Allstars and winners Challengers

Most Runs – Andrew Yon of the Challengers (466 runs)
Most Sixes – David Young of Sandy Bay Pirates (35 sixes)
Best batting average – Andrew Yon of the Challengers (116.50)
Most wickets – Greg Coleman of the Sandy Bay Pirates (18 wickets)
Best bowling average – Greg Coleman (7.28)
Most Catches – Kristian Leo, Andrew Yon and Nico Ellick (7 catches)

Knockout – Runners Up Challengers, Winner Sandy Bay Pirates

Most Runs – Andrew Yon (222 runs)
Most sixes – Andrew Yon (14 sixes)
Best batting average – Andrew Yon (111)
Highest score first innings of knockout – Andrew Yon of Challengers (110 not out v Jamestown Heat)
Most Wickets – Joey Thomas (10 Wickets)
Best bowling average – Joey Thomas (4.1)
Most catches – Andrew Yon, Deon Maggott, Ajay Bennett and Joey Thomas (3 catches)

LOCAL SPORTS

Cricket Presentation Awards

Season Awards

Player of the season – Andrew Yon

Young player of the season and MycleDook cup – Kieran Williams of Sandy Bay Pirates

6th Place - Lebron George (Jamestown Heat) – 33.422 MVP points

5th Place - Tyler Anthony (Mustangs) – 34.746 MVP points

4th Place - Hugo Richards (Jamestown Heat) – 36.206 MVP points

3rd Place - Kirk Lawrence (Cobras) – 38.037 MVP points

2nd Place - Zach Francis (Jamestown Heat) – 48.488 MVP points

1st Place - Kieran Williams (Sandy Bay Pirates) – 51.476 MVP points

Wicketkeeper of the season – Nico Ellick (18 dismissal, 7 byes, Average – 0.39)

Best bowler of the season – Greg Coleman (38 wickets, Average – 10.61)

Best batting Average of the season – Andrew Yon (1379 runs, average – 114.97)

Highest Score of the season – Scott Crowie 155 against Cobras and Aiden Leo 155 against Levelwood Rebels

Most Ducks – Cormac Crowie (Levelwood Allstars)

Most Dropped catches – Luke Bennett (Western A Mustangs)



St. Helena Cricket Association

MACS SHIPPING SCHEDULE UPDATE



	BRIGHT SKY 251211	GREEN MOUNTAIN 251213	LILAC ROLLER 251215
Immingham	10-May	14-Jun	12-Jul
	KAROLINE 251706	KAROLINE 251707	KAROLINE 251708
Cape Town	15-Jun	21-Jul	19-Aug
Rupert's Bay	23-Jun	29-Jul	27-Aug
Ascension Island	-	03-Aug	-
	KAROLINE 251806	KAROLINE 251806	KAROLINE 251806
Cape Town	06-Jul	19-Aug	09-Sep

*schedule may change without prior notice. For the latest updates, please visit our website.



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**WHATEVER
YOU NEED
TO SHIP**



Golf Report: Texas Scramble Golf Competition

Report by the St Helena Golf Club

The Texas Scramble Golf competition held on Sunday, 8th June, originally scheduled as a three-person team event with one non-member per team, faced challenges in forming teams despite best efforts. As a result, the format was reverted to the traditional Shotgun Start Stableford Texas Scramble, comprising two members per team. The handicap was set at 3/8ths of each member's handicap for scoring purposes.

The weather conditions were far from ideal, with intervals of rain and only brief moments of sunshine. However, the challenging weather did not deter the participants, as evident in the impressive scores returned on the day.

The outright winners of the competition were Neil Joshua and Patrick Henry, who achieved an exceptional score of 48 points. Close behind, in second place, were Helena and Jeff Stevens, with a commendable score of 45 points.

A highlight of the day was the single "2" scored by Neil Joshua and Pat Henry team on the par-3 16th hole. This remarkable feat earned them all the balls in the two-ball pool.



Special recognition goes to the generous anonymous sponsor who supported the competition and provided the wonderful prizes. Additionally, a big thank you was extended to Helena Stevens, the Lady Captain, who graciously presented the prizes to the winners. And to the members who rallied and helped behind scenes in making the event a success

Despite the less-than-perfect weather, the competition proved to be an enjoyable and memorable event for all participants.

Upcoming Events JUNE 2025

15th June :	18 Hole Stroke Play (No Handicap)
21st & 22nd June:	St Helena Open Championship
28th & 29th June:	St Helena Open Championship

Happy swinging.....!

