

THE ST HELENA

INDEPENDENT

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In Pictures: A Weekend of Sports



More Manifestos - Polls Next Wednesday



Pilling Primary's Open Day



A Busy Year for Brownies

And it's not over yet...



Property For Sale



Property Alarm Forest £185,000.00

- ▶ This is an Exceptionally well finished house inside and out
- ▶ 3 Bedroom House with garage and off-road car parking
- ▶ Good size kitchen and lounge as well as a modern bathroom
- ▶ The property is not overlooked and offers a mature garden with ocean views



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- This property offers the buyer good development opportunities subject to planning permission

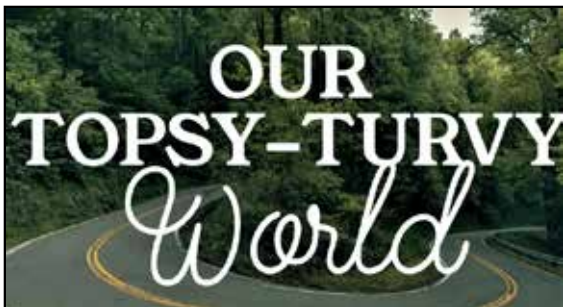
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AUGUST BANK HOILDAY EVENTS





Bad Science is Becoming Big Business

Researchers are dealing with a disturbing trend that threatens the foundation of scientific progress: scientific fraud has become an industry. And it's growing faster than legitimate peer reviewed science

journals can keep up with. This isn't about individual bad actors anymore. We're witnessing the emergence of an organised, systematic approach to scientific fraud.

Is this just a case of scientists being lazy? The answer is more complex and troubling. Today's researchers face constraints that make these fraudulent services increasingly tempting.

The pressure to continually produce new research or risk getting your funding cut, called the "publish or perish" culture, is a longstanding problem.

If this were simply about weeding out unethical scientists, the systems we already have might suffice. But we're facing a challenge to the network of checks and balances that makes science work. When fraudulent publications grow faster than legitimate science and when AI-generated content overwhelms human review capacity, we need better solutions.

Until we address these systemic issues, the fraud industry will thrive, undermining the enterprise that has made our world safer, cleaner and more accessible. The question isn't whether we can afford to fix this system—it's whether we can afford not to.

Owen Brierley – Kingston University

Acute challenge from weak growth and shrinking workforce, says Bank of England Governor - ageing population is adding to the squeeze

Britain faces an "acute challenge" from its weak underlying economic growth and a drop in the number of workers since the pandemic, according to the Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey. His concerns echo anxiety about St Helena's future.

A rise in the number of people defined as long-term sick and a big drop in young people in work added to the squeeze created by an ageing population.

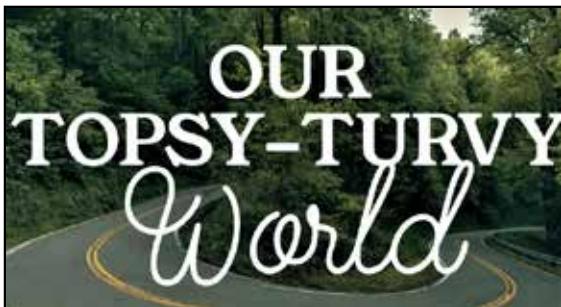
This increases the need for efforts to boost economic productivity, Bailey told a gathering of leading policymakers.

The emphasis needed to be on raising productivity growth. "Ageing is not going to turn around in the foreseeable future." By 2040, 40 per cent of the UK population will be older than 64, he added. He said the Bank of England had turned its focus away from long-term trends in unemployment to look instead at levels of labour force participation.

Official data shows that the percentage of 16- 64-year-olds active in Britain's labour market is lower than before the

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Later requests subject to
available space.**



Covid-19 pandemic, unlike in other advanced economies. Mental health was the most common reason for being inactive, a point he described as “a very concerning development”.

At the White House, Cabinet meetings Were Once Considered Closed-Door Affairs, Not Under Trump

US presidents, like UK prime ministers and the St Helena chief minister, always held their cabinet meetings in private. The big issues and big secrets were closely guarded. But since Trump was elected, cabinet meetings mean it's showtime!

Trump has held seven cabinet meetings so far, showtime can stretch to two hours. Selected press reporters ask unlimited questions about any issue. Trump gathers his 'A Team' at cabinet meetings to discuss his administration's agenda. Each cabinet member in the room takes it in turn to point out alleged successes in their departments. Press Secretary Karoline 'Barbie' Leavitt has repeatedly pointed to this as evidence that this administration is the most "transparent" in US history.

This week, Trump had a typical blast on social media, this time saying he will sack one of the governors of the Federal Reserve Bank. That was a day before a cabinet meeting was scheduled. What he did was make certain there would be lots of questions from reporters and lots of the publicity he loves to have.

US presidents can issue Executive Orders. Trumps loves to do this because it by-passes all the boring debate in the House of Representatives and the Senate. It also lets everyone know he is in charge. DJ Trump has issued 192 Executive Orders since becoming president in January this year. He was also president from 2017 to 2021 when he issued 220 Executive Orders over the four-year term. At his present rate of signing Orders, he will have signed about 1,150 Executive Orders before the end of his second term of office.

UK Proclamations

In the UK, there is the Proclamation which can be used to pass legislation without putting it through Parliament. Proclamations used to be wide-ranging and issued by the Monarch in consultation with the Privy Council (the Monarch's advisors) but are now only allowed for minor and procedural matters.

Whenever The St Helena constitution is amended, the final draft is confirmed by the Privy Council and signed off by the Monarch as an Order in Council. Proclamations and Orders in Council are similar – both by-pass parliamentary scrutiny. The St Helena constitution does not allow the chief minister to issue Proclamations or anything like it. However, The St Helena Government Gazette carried the announcement with the changes to the constitution which introduced the ministerial system; this was signed by the deputy chief secretary. Proclamations in St Helena are made by the governor, but like in the UK they concern minor matters.

All of that is more than a bit messy. One of several reasons why any candidates elected on 3rd September who are new to the job can expect to spend about two years getting their heads around how to get anything done.

Exciting Times for the Jamestown Brownie Unit!

*Update on their achievements and events:
January to August 2025*

At the start of the year, with twelve girls in our Unit, Brownies were busy having fun through learning, exploring and taking on challenges. Interest badges were worked on and challenges engaged. Girls have been boosting their confidence and taking action to promote a positive self-image of themselves and applying skills for their future. Lots of achievements and events took place and we would like to share them with you.

We shared and marked our special day with our global sisterhood in celebrating World Thinking Day, 22nd February 2025. The Jamestown Girlguiding Units hosted this event. The celebrations took place at Blue Hill Community Centre with the theme being 'Our Story'. Girls definitely took pleasure in the change of environment and thoroughly enjoyed the activities.

Linked to the activities assigned for this event, Brownies from our three units; Longwood, St Paul's and Jamestown compiled a 'Time Capsule' to be stored and kept sealed for 50 years. Girls unanimously requested for it to be kept at Plantation House. This was a fun way for the Brownies to compile present memories and information. In 2075 our Brownies of today will be invited to break the seal of their 'Time Capsule' where they will be able to re-connect with their younger selves!

During her term as the Children's Champion, former Councillor Gillian Brooks, paid our unit a visit on 18th February. Brownies engaged in conversations as Cllr Brooks spoke about her role and responsibilities as a Children's Champion which included promoting children's rights and their wellbeing.

A sponsored Culture Walk, hosted by the Longwood Girlguiding Units, took place on Saturday 8th March 2025. All respective units took part in the walk which was adapted to suit the needs of individuals and parents and guests were invited to join us. Girls compiled a head piece to represent any country around the world and were given the option to showcase their headpiece during the walk. Feedback indicated that this was a lovely event and the walk was very enjoyable and accommodating.

On 4th March Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Day, Brownies once again enthusiastically took part in the traditional pan cake races displaying their community spirit!

With April being Autism Awareness month, the Jamestown Brownie Unit once again showed their support. This time we invited some Au-some families to join us for afternoon tea. Brownies proudly served delightful cupcakes depicting the Autism Awareness logo accompanied with other tasty refreshments. If we are able to help and interact with children who have autism, then we are not only doing a good deed, but we are also living our Promise. We would like to thank those parents and their children for accepting our invite and the Brownies in return, would like to say 'Thank You' for their lovely gifts. It was a pleasure having them with us.



For Mother's Day treat; Brownies baked cupcakes and beautifully decorated them to ensure that their mothers had the best presentation.

Six Brownies; Alize, Charlie, Faith, Holly, Laura and Morgan along with our helper, Ms Cherry Murray took part in a sponsored swim challenging themselves to complete 10 lengths of the pool. Our Commissioner, Mrs Pamela Ward Pearce kept aligned and also completed 10 lengths. Well done to you all. Monies raised from this event will help to replenish resources for our unit. Many thanks to the community for your sponsors. To commemorate 204 years of Napoleon's death, we paid a visit to his tomb and then onto Longwood House. We finished the day off with lunch and fun time on Longwood Green.

On our National Day, 21st May, Brownies joined in with the parade service. In making our National Day a double-celebration, we gathered at the Cenotaph for a special moment where Leah-Raye and Mila made their Brownie Promise in the presence of our Girlguiding Commissioner.

Tuesday 10th June, Brownies did the Jacobs Ladder challenge in honour of their dads for Father's Day. Raring to go; accompanied by some of their dads and Sweet Pea, they rose to the challenge and started to ascend at 4:40pm. Girls took it in their stride as this was not a competition nor were they compelled to climb all steps. However, some individuals were enthused to showcase their abilities and bravely ascended all 699 steps. Eight-year-old Laura Wortley reached the

top in 12 minutes and 33 seconds, followed by Mila Van Wyk, Alize Sim, Barbs and Liimi Faas, and Leah-Raye Moyce.

Bravo girls!! Four Brownies decided to just do half way and were applauded for their efforts. Grateful thanks to Poppy K



for transporting the jubilant girls back in to town. Also, big thanks to the parents and our Sweet Pea for their valued support. On completing this challenge, Ms Cherry shared some delicious treats to restore their energy and to celebrate their achievement. Thanks Ms Cherry!

At the end of Term 3A, we celebrated with Mia Francis for making her Brownie

Promise and with Alize Sim, Liimi Faas and Morgan Stroud for completing their Brownie journey. During this celebration, badges, certificates and gifts were presented for achievements, followed by bountiful refreshments and special treats. The Jamestown Brownies are now pen-palling with the 4th Newton-le-Willows Brownies of Crown Street, Earlestown, UK. Girls are really excited with the exchange of letters and photographs. Pen-palling can offer a range of benefits for the Brownies in helping them with literacy skills as well as cultural understanding. It can also provide an avenue for self-expression, creativity, and lasting friendships.

Wednesday, 2nd July the Brownies from all three units presented their 'Time Capsule' to H.E. Governor Phillips to be kept at Plantation House for the next 50 years. Their 'Time Capsule' is a symbolic act of preserving memories and historical information for reflection and rediscovery in the future. The opening date is predetermined for 22nd February 2075 when these girls will be invited back to break the seal. Although this may seem like a small act today, the contents can become cherished treasures in the years ahead and a reminder of the little things that made the Brownies unique in 2025. We would like to thank H.E. Governor Phillips and Mrs Phillips for such superb hospitality.



In closing of the last school term, we had a 'Bring and Share' with fun games. We wished Laura a great holiday abroad and for the other Brownies to enjoy their end of school holidays and to prep themselves for the new school year ahead. We have spaces in our Unit, so if any girls would like to join us then please get in contact. We will provide parents with the registration documents which needs to be completed before a girl can join the Unit. Brownies starts at the age of 7 and finishes at 10 years.

We are a self-funded charity and in Girlguiding we recognise the importance of utilising various resources and tools to accommodate, be inclusive and create spaces for every single girl to feel heard, represented and empowered. The five essentials in Girlguiding are the core principles that guides our programs. These are: working together in small groups, encouraging self-government and decision-making, a balanced and varied program that is girl-led, caring for the individual, and sharing a commitment to a common standard.



We would like extend our grateful thanks to Miss Marilyn Essex for her contribution to our unit. Ms Cherry Murray has been helping for the past six months and we truly appreciate her support and of course all the bakes! Miss Sweet Pea continues to be our regular committed helper and is always living our Brownie Motto! Mrs Rose, Blossom and Poppy are always at the ready to lend a hand and we are ever so grateful for your support. We will continue to work with the girls in harmony as a Brownie family. We love being volunteers because we care! Would you like to become a volunteer? Being a volunteer means that you can help to create amazing opportunities for young girls and become a gift to our

community. We welcome volunteers as leaders, helpers or just casual helpers. If so, then please contact our St Helena Girlguiding Commissioner, Pamela Ward-Pearce in person or via telephone 22445 or Debbie Knipe Unit Leader, either in person or via telephone 24929.

Contributed by the Jamestown Brownie Unit



EMERGENCY PLANNING OPEN DAY





Pilling marks the end of another successful year !!

Contributed by Elaine Benjamin, Headteacher PPS

‘To have a passion for learning and to be proud of our achievements’.

The end of the school year is always a busy and exciting time at Pilling Primary, as we wrap up another academic year and prepare for the next. We'd like to share some of our end-of-year activities with you.

We are always proud to showcase the achievements of our pupils and staff throughout the year.

One of the highlights was our annual **Open Day**, which took place on Friday, 1st August from 9:30am to 6:00pm.

The school was bustling with activity all day, welcoming proud parents, former pupils, supportive visitors and friends. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to see the school in action and to admire the fantastic work of our children and teachers.



The annual primary schools football and netball tournaments recently took place with great enthusiasm. Due to bad weather, the football tournament was hosted on the playground of Pilling Primary School, while the netball tournament was held at New Horizons.

Pilling Primary School emerged as winners in both the football and netball tournaments, showcasing impressive skill and teamwork and the event was marked by good team spirit and healthy competition among all participating schools, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.

Our half-termly Good Work Assembly is a wonderful reminder of our pupils' achievements.

Well done to all the pupils who produced outstanding work this half term — your hard work and dedication are truly commendable!

Our annual Awards Night and Year 6 Leavers' Celebration took place on Tuesday 12th August at the Jamestown Community Centre. This special evening celebrated a distinguished group of pupils who have shown excellence, determination, and effort throughout the academic year.

The hall was beautifully decorated in a black, green, and gold theme, setting the tone for an evening of recognition and reflection. Invited guests, awardees, and their families enjoyed non-alcoholic drinks and light refreshments.

Awards were presented for: Most Outstanding Performance in each year group, Most Noticeable Effort in each year group, Keenen Bennett Award – awarded to the Best Footballer in Key Stage 2, Mrs Brenda Corker Award – for the Reading Champion in Key Stage 1, Jean Beadon Art Award – presented to Year 6 pupils for excellence in art and Highest Achievers in Year 6 SATs (Maths and English) – celebrating outstanding academic performance

Year 6 pupils performed songs and shared heartfelt farewell messages to their teachers. As a parting gift, each student received a commemorative Pilling School T-shirt, marking the end of their journey at Pilling —



a school that has meant so much to them and the community. We also said a fond farewell to Mr Steve Plato, our Deputy Head, who will be continuing his professional journey at St Helena Secondary School. Mr Plato was sincerely thanked for his dedication to Pilling and to primary education, and was presented with a framed photograph of the school, crafted locally.

Special thanks were extended to: Our PTA members for their support over the past year, Work experience students: Miss Alisha Moyce and Miss Hannah John and All staff members for their commitment, passion, and resilience during what has been a challenging year

In closing, the Head teacher, Miss Elaine Benjamin, thanked the entire school community for their incredible support, making Pilling not just a school but a family. While the closure of Pilling School marks the end of an era, we now look forward to new beginnings and carry with us the pride and spirit of all that Pilling has achieved.



Our end-of-year school meal took place on the last day of term, Wednesday 13th August. Pupils enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by the wonderful New Horizons team. Thank you, New Horizons and thank you to Mrs Zena Peters for donating the icecream.

Thank you to the PTA members who kindly came along to assist staff with serving. Your support helped make the day a special one for everyone involved!

Head Teacher's leavers' speech to YR 6

Good evening everyone.

This is a special evening. A time to celebrate everything our Year 6 pupils have achieved, and a moment to reflect on the amazing journey they've taken here at Pilling. It's a mixture of pride, excitement, and perhaps a few tears as we say good-bye to a truly fantastic group of young people.



To our Year 6s – what a journey it's been. From those early days in Reception, where your shoes always seemed to come off and your coats were somehow always inside out, to now – confident, capable, kind-hearted individuals ready to take on the next big step. We've watched you grow, learn, stumble, get back up, and succeed – and it has been an absolute pleasure to be a part of that.

You've brought so much to our school – laughter in the corridors, enthusiasm in the classroom, energy on the playground, and friendship wherever it was needed. You've supported each other, challenged yourselves, and helped make Pilling the welcoming, caring and vibrant place we are so proud of.

It's hard to let you go, but we know that each of you is ready. You've got everything you need for the journey ahead – not just your knowledge and skills, but your creativity, your kindness, your sense of fun, and your strength of character. Remember this as you move forward: this world is yours, if only you believe. Believe in your ideas, your voice, your dreams. Life will throw challenges your way – that's a certainty – but with belief, determination and courage, there is so much you can achieve.

You are all capable of incredible things, and we can't wait to hear about the amazing paths you'll take. Whether you become scientists, artists, builders, dancers, doctors, teachers or something that hasn't even been invented yet – just promise us one thing: always be yourselves, and always do your best.

As you leave us, please know that you'll always have a place here at Pilling. You'll be missed more than you know, but we are so proud to have been part of your story.

So, to our wonderful Year 6s – thank you. Thank you for the memories, the effort, the joy, and the difference you've made. All the very best for what lies ahead. Go out into the world, believe in yourselves, and shine brightly.

The world is yours – If only you believe!





CODING YOUR FUTURE: YOUR PATH TO IT EXCELLENCE- From Remote Island to Global Networks- Written By *Ed Oyewo*

"I want to build apps that help connect St. Helena to the world better," says Sam*, a Year 11 student at St. Helena Secondary School. "Maybe develop systems for our government, or create platforms that help local businesses reach global markets. But I'm not sure if I need to leave the island to study, or what qualifications I actually need." In today's digital world, IT careers offer incredible flexibility – and for Saints, they represent opportunities to work globally while potentially staying connected to home. So what does it really take to launch your IT career?

The GCSE Foundation: Your Digital Building Blocks

Essential Subjects: Mathematics (Grade 5+, ideally 6+) – IT involves logical thinking, algorithms, and data analysis. While you don't need to be a maths genius, solid foundations matter.

English Language (Grade 5+) – IT professionals must communicate complex ideas clearly, write documentation, and work with

international teams. **Computer Science** (Grade 6+) – If available, this gives you programming foundations, but don't panic if your school doesn't offer it.

Highly Recommended: Physics (Grade 5+) – Helps understand how digital systems work at a fundamental level. **Business Studies** (Grade 5+) – Many IT careers involve understanding how technology solves business problems. **Any other subjects you enjoy** (Grade 5+) – IT is everywhere, so expertise in other fields (geography, art, languages) makes you more valuable.

"What if we don't have Computer Science at school?" asks another student. Here's the exciting truth: many successful IT professionals are self-taught. The barrier to entry in IT is often lower than other technical fields, with employers valuing skills and portfolio over just qualifications.

Multiple Pathways: Traditional and Modern Routes

University Options: UK institutions like University of Edinburgh (ABB-BBB) offer excellent Computer Science degrees with strong industry connections, while Manchester Metropolitan University (BBC-BCC) provides more accessible entry with practical focus. In South Africa, University of Cape Town delivers world-class IT programs with understanding of remote student challenges, and Stellenbosch University offers innovative approaches to technology education with good support systems.

Online Learning Revolution: The IT industry has embraced online education like no other field. **Degree Alternatives** include Open University UK offering fully online Computer Science degrees perfect for island students, University of London's online BSc Computer Science providing world-class education from home, and UNISA (South Africa) delivering affordable, internationally recognized IT qualifications with flexible study schedules.

Professional Certifications often matter more than degrees in IT. **Microsoft Certifications** (Azure, Office 365) are highly valued by employers worldwide and can be studied entirely online. **Cisco**



Networking certifications open doors to network administration roles globally. **Google Career Certificates** in IT Support, Data Analytics, and UX Design are industry-recognized and can be completed in months, not years. **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** certifications are gold standard for cloud computing careers.

The Self-Learning Advantage

"Can I really learn IT skills from St. Helena?" Absolutely! **Free Learning Platforms** like Codecademy, freeCodeCamp, and Khan Academy offer comprehensive programming courses. **YouTube Channels** provide tutorials on everything from basic coding to advanced cybersecurity. **GitHub** allows you to build a portfolio of

projects that employers value more than grades. **Online Bootcamps** like Lambda School or General Assembly offer intensive, job-focused training.

Many IT professionals recommend starting with **Python** (beginner-friendly programming language),

HTML/CSS/JavaScript (web development basics), or **SQL** (database

management) – all learnable online with dedication and practice.

Making It Happen: Your IT Action Plan

Start building skills now through free online resources and coding projects. Create accounts on GitHub, LinkedIn, and Stack Overflow to join the global IT community. Consider completing Google Career Certificates or Microsoft Learn modules during holidays or spare time. Research whether local businesses need simple websites or IT support – real experience trumps theoretical knowledge.

"How do I know if I'm good enough?" asks Sam. In IT, your portfolio speaks louder than your grades. Build websites, create apps, solve real problems. Document everything on GitHub. Join online coding communities where you can ask questions and get feedback from professionals worldwide.

Your Digital Future Starts Today

"I realize that from St. Helena, I could potentially work with companies anywhere in the world," says Sam. "The internet makes location less important in IT than almost any other career."

This insight captures IT's unique appeal for Saints. Whether you dream of developing mobile apps, managing cybersecurity for international companies, designing user experiences for global platforms, or building the digital infrastructure that keeps our modern world connected, your journey can begin today with nothing more than internet access and determination.

The IT industry values problem-solving ability, creativity, and persistence – qualities that growing up on St. Helena develops naturally. Your unique perspective on remote connectivity, resource optimization, and community-focused solutions makes you particularly valuable to a world increasingly working remotely. Don't wait for perfect conditions or worry about having the "right" background. Start coding today, build something useful, and let your skills speak for themselves.

Till Next Time, Keep Well



Dear editor,

This week I was asked a question on Facebook which I would like to share with the wider public. The question was a response to the same posters I put into your paper last week. One thing I would add to my original response is don't ask your councillors and Ministers what we did for you only at election time, ask us frequently, councillors and Ministers work for you the public and you have every right to ask them what they're doing and what they have done almost at any time (3AM phone calls might be pushing it):

Great that you've focused on two essentials within our community - telecommunications and energy. Could you please include the actions that

you would take to progress this as well your other achievements in the 4 years you were in office? Helps in making the informed decision on whether to vote for you to continue this work or not.

My Answer is:

I will do my best to give a summary, but it is not easy to condense what could be a couple of books into a Facebook post. During my 4 years as a councillor, I worked consistently to represent the people of St Helena with clarity, honesty, and accountability. From the very beginning, I believed that being elected carried a responsibility to act with transparency, to listen carefully to the concerns of residents, and to ensure those concerns were raised in the places where decisions are made. My guiding principle has always been that government must work for the people—and that requires elected members to ask the difficult questions, challenge decisions when necessary, and push for better outcomes. I fought often against the tide for the same four areas I promised during my election campaign: affordable renewable energy, affordable housing, better telecommunications, and better communication. Sadly, these areas still have a long way to go before real change is delivered. Some progress was made, but not enough. One area where I did see stronger results, however, was in Scrutiny—a principle I highlighted as essential for the new form of Government.

Scrutiny Committee 2

A large part of my work was carried out through the committees I served on. As a member of Scrutiny Committee 2 alongside Councillor Dr Corinda Essex (Chair) and Councillor Andrew Turner, I was directly involved in examining government policies and decisions across key areas, including Government Landlord Housing, roads, and the disposal of government assets.

Scrutiny is not just about pointing out faults—it is about making sure actions match promises, assessing how well services are delivered, and recognising both successes and failings. In particular, I pressed for decisions to be taken with an island-wide approach, rather than in departmental silos, so that policies truly serve the community as a whole. The hard work I put into Scrutiny Committee 2, and indeed all scrutiny activities, would not have been possible without the dedication of the other councillors and members who served alongside me. Scrutiny is always a team effort, and I valued the cooperative spirit that allowed us to achieve meaningful outcomes.

Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

Alongside SC2, I served on the PAC, where our responsibility was to ensure that taxpayers' money was spent wisely and effectively. The PAC provides one of the strongest forms of accountability within our system, and I am proud to have contributed to its work. The PAC examined several significant projects, including the fibre optic cable and the last-mile network. These enquiries exposed weaknesses in planning, oversight, and delivery, which led to more than £650,000 of wasted public funds and delays in delivering promised services. I made sure these findings were brought into the public domain because only by acknowledging mistakes can we prevent them from being repeated.

The PAC also pursued enquiries into other areas, including the Fishing Operations Agreement. While this work has not yet concluded, it remains vital. Fishing should be a cornerstone of our economy, yet profound questions remain about how agreements were handled. The public deserves transparency and honest answers. One point I want to emphasise is that the PAC worked right up to the final days of this council's term. Scrutiny and accountability must be continuous—not seasonal.

Affordable Energy & Public Voice

Another key area of my work was on energy policy. Electricity is one of the highest costs faced by households and businesses. With over 20 years of professional experience in renewable energy, energy-saving technologies, and project financing, I know that there are real, practical ways to cut costs and deliver cleaner power.

I have argued consistently that electricity prices could be reduced by at least 50% through investment in proven solutions like solar, wind, and battery storage. Alongside this, I worked with the public to help them raise their voices. Together with Councillor Andrew Turner, I led several petitions to the Utility Regulatory Authority (URA), ensuring that community concerns about proposed tariff changes were heard. This was an important example of councillors and the public working together to influence policy.

Affordable Housing

Housing was another priority. Too many working families are priced out of owning a home. High building costs, limited financing options, and restricted land access have left many reliant on rentals or GLH housing. I have consistently supported bold solutions such as:

- Releasing affordable land for first-time buyers
- Exploring new housing models like starter homes and apartments
- Advocating innovative financing with lower interest and more extended repayment periods
- Addressing the need for affordable rental housing, especially for temporary workers who are essential to our modern workforce

Affordable housing is about more than shelter—it underpins economic stability, community development, and gives younger generations a reason to stay on the island.

A Strong Voice in Legislation

Beyond scrutiny and committee work, one of the most important responsibilities of any councillor is shaping legislation. Throughout my term, I worked to ensure that new laws were not only technically sound but also achieved their intended outcome and gained public support. Legislation should never be rushed or disconnected from the people it serves. One of the final Ordinances we worked on was the much-needed Communications Ordinance, which establishes the role of the Communications Regulator. This piece of legislation was long overdue and critical for safeguarding the rights of consumers, promoting transparency, and ensuring fairer oversight in our telecommunications sector. For me, ending the term by helping to deliver this Ordinance was a high point—it showed that even in the final weeks of a Council's life, we can still make meaningful progress that will benefit the island for years to come.

Accessibility & Community Engagement

Beyond policy and legislation, I remained accessible. Being a councillor is not just about meetings and documents—it is about being there for people. Whether it was late-night phone calls, chats in the supermarket, or responding to everyday problems, I tried to be approachable and responsive. Many issues I raised in council or committee came directly from those conversations.

Representing St Helena with the CPA BIMR

I am honoured to say that the representatives of the members of CPA BIMR selected me to be the chair of a group to look at digital transformation, including AI.

Conclusion

In summary, my record as a councillor demonstrates a consistent commitment to accountability, affordability, and accessibility. Through Scrutiny Committee 2, I worked to ensure policies were examined correctly. Through the PAC, I helped uncover failings and press for answers on key issues such as the fibre cable and the Fishing Operations Agreement. With Councillor Turner, I led petitions that gave the public a stronger voice on energy tariffs. I fought for affordable energy and housing to lower the cost of living and create better opportunities for families. This year, I pushed for a higher increase in the BIP. I ensured legislation was considered carefully and ended the term on a high note with the Communications Ordinance. And through constant engagement, I worked to ensure that ordinary voices were heard. The introduction of Ministers Question has led to a new way for concerns of the public to be raised and questioned, I hope that the question I asked in MQT and LegCo helped the public gain answers to many of the questions they had.

Regards

Karl Thrower

Councillors Turner and Thrower Outline Key Standards for Chief Minister Candidates

Candidates issue four questions that candidates for Chief Minister should answer before winning their backing.

During the last four years as councillors, we, Andrew Turner and Karl Thrower, have worked together on several key issues. One example was our joint petitions to the Utilities Regulatory Authority (URA) regarding electricity price rises. These petitions helped to ensure that the URA fully considered the views of the public when deliberating and making its decisions. If we are honoured with re-election, we will continue this approach of listening to the community and holding decision-makers to account.

One of the first and most important tasks of the new Legislative Council will be to elect a Chief Minister. The Constitution of St Helena sets out the rules for this process, but as elected members, we also have a duty to make sure that the person chosen will lead in a way that restores public confidence in government.

One of the key failings of the last government was its decision to close Executive Council meetings entirely from public view, to deny other councillors access to agendas or minutes, and to interpret “collective responsibility” in a way that shut out scrutiny. This created mistrust both within the Council and among the wider public. Before the change to the ministerial system, Executive Council meetings were more open: members of the public could attend, and the public received timely briefings. Sensitive items were rightly dealt with in closed session, but transparency was the norm, not the exception.

For this reason, before supporting any candidate for Chief Minister, we believe they should answer the following questions:

1. Will you commit to opening Executive Council meetings to the public by default, with only sensitive items held in closed session?
2. Will you ensure that all councillors, whether ministers or not, have access to agendas, minutes, and decisions of ExCo?
3. Will you re-establish regular public briefings following Executive Council meetings, so that people know what decisions have been made and why?
4. Will you respect the principle that collective responsibility should not be used as a tool to block scrutiny, but as a framework for accountable leadership?

If a candidate cannot commit to these minimum standards of openness and accountability, then they will not have our support to become Chief Minister.

This statement is not about personalities but about principles. The public deserves clarity, honesty, and accountability from its government, and we believe that starts with how the Executive Council is run. By raising these questions now, we hope all potential candidates will consider their positions carefully during this election process.

Andrew Turner and Karl Thrower

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SPEAKER AND DEPUTY SPEAKER OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Expressions of Interest are invited from members of the public to fill the vacant office of Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Legislative Council. Interested persons must be registered as an Elector on the Register of Electors which came into effect from 1 July 2025.

The Speaker presides over meetings of Legislative Council and ensures the observance of rules of order. The Speaker is non-voting. The Speaker is also the President of the local Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Another activity of the Speaker is to oversee the Complaints procedure for conducting investigations into complaints made against Elected Members, in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members of Legislative Council.

In the absence of the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker assumes these responsibilities.

In accordance with Section 55 of the St Helena, Ascension and Tristan Da Cunha Constitution, both positions are elected by Elected Members of Council; this election will take place at the first sitting of Legislative Council, soon after the General Election 2025. Eligible members of the public who have put themselves forward, for both positions, must be proposed and seconded by different Elected Members. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker will take up office immediately following his/her election.

Interested persons are encouraged to contact the Legislative Council Office on telephone: 22590 or via email: morgan.thomas-henry@sainthelena.gov.sh or Marita.Bagley@sainthelena.gov.sh for further details and to register your name by 4pm on Friday, 5 September 2025.



Diocese of St Helena

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 31st August 2025 – 22nd Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
	Thursday 4th September	
7.00 p.m.	Praise and Worship	St Andrew

The Parish of St James

Sunday 31st August 2025 – 22nd Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Monday 1st September	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist	St Mary
	Thursday 4th September	
7.00 p.m.	Mass with Healing	St John

The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 31st August 2025 – 22nd Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 2nd September	
7.00 p.m.	70x7 Forgiveness	St Mark

BAHA'I FAITH HE IS THE GLORY OF GLORIES



O SON OF SPIRIT!

The best beloved of all things in My sight is Justice; turn not away therefrom if thou desirest Me, and neglect it not that I may confide in thee. By its aid thou shalt see with thine own eyes and not through the eyes of others, and shalt know of thine own knowledge and not through the knowledge of thy neighbour. Ponder this in thy heart; how it behooveth thee to be. Verily justice is My gift to thee and the sign of My loving – kindness. Set it then before thine eyes.

————— **Baha'u'llah**

O SON OF MAN!

Veiled in My immemorial being and in the ancient eternity of My essence, I knew My love for thee; therefore I created thee, have engraved on thee Mine image and revealed to thee My beauty. ————— **Baha'u'llah**

If the Baha'i Faith may be of interest to you, Please phone Delia or Cliff Huxtable. 24342.

SHOULDER SURFING

WHO'S LOOKING OVER YOUR SHOULDER?

Shoulder surfing occurs when a cyber-criminal literally looks over your shoulder to attempt to steal your passwords, debit card numbers or PIN numbers as you type them into your computer, phone or an ATM machine.

Shoulder surfing can have serious consequences e.g. if someone obtains your email and password, they could hack other accounts, allowing them to make unauthorised purchases, open new credit cards, apply for loans, or commit crimes in your name i.e. identity theft.



Shoulder surfing often occurs in public places like airports, coffee shops, or ATMs, when you're making payments with a card machine or making cash withdrawals. Cyber criminals also use hidden cameras or binoculars to steal your data.

Shoulder surfing is also easily done wherever people are packed closely together, such as public transport, airplanes, concert halls or busy emergency rooms. A study of commuters in the UK found that 72% shoulder surfed, but this was mostly due to boredom rather than malicious intent.

SIGNS OF SHOULDER SURFING

■ UNAUTHORIZED TRANSACTIONS

Unusual charges or payments will appear on your bank statements that you know you didn't make.

■ PASSWORD RESET EMAILS

You receive random password reset notification emails, which indicate someone is trying to access your accounts.



■ NEW ACCOUNTS IN YOUR NAME

Debit cards or other accounts that you know you didn't create, appear on your bank statements.

■ SUSPICIOUS LOGIN ACTIVITY

You receive alerts that your accounts are being accessed from unusual or unknown devices or locations.

STOP SHOULDER SURFERS



IN PUBLIC PLACES

✔ **BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS**
Look out for suspicious people or devices which could be attempting to steal your personal information.

✔ **SIT AGAINST A WALL**
If you're entering sensitive data into your computer or phone in a public place, position yourself so no one can look over your shoulder and see your screen.



ON YOUR DEVICES

✔ **PICK COMPLEX PASSWORDS**
Use strong passwords with minimum 14 characters to make it harder for shoulder surfers to memorize what you've typed.

✔ **USE BIOMETRICS**
Where possible, set up fingerprint or facial recognition on your devices to avoid the need to type sensitive passwords in public altogether.



AT CARD MACHINES

✔ **COVER THE KEYPAD**
When you enter your PIN at an ATM or other terminal, use your hand to cover the keypad to prevent other people or cameras from seeing your code.

✔ **COMPLETE YOUR TRANSACTION**
Ensure your ATM transaction is fully completed, and take your receipt before stepping away.



St Helena
Government

CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN 2025



Expression of interest - Content Creators



We are compiling a list of on-island content creators who are interested in being contacted for potential collaboration to create fresh, engaging, and inspiring content.

If you're passionate about St Helena, creativity, and storytelling, we want to hear from you. Please complete the form at the following link:
<https://forms.gle/o31o5JMhERU6j5K66>

You'll be asked to provide:

- Your name and contact information
- A short introduction about yourself and why you would like to create content about St Helena
- Links to your portfolio or past work
- Any specific areas of interest or expertise

We look forward to connecting with individuals who are keen to collaborate.

For further information, contact tyanne.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh



VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT AUDITOR

Salary range £11,091 to £12,929 per annum

Audit St Helena is seeking to recruit an Assistant Auditor to join its Audit Team.

The person will assist with financial and performance audits across the public sector and will support other business processes. No prior experience in this field is required.

Prospective candidates are required to have good GCSE grades or Functional Skills Level 2 in English and Mathematics and be prepared to study for the ACCA Foundations in Accountancy programme. On-the-job training will be provided.

Key skills for this position include efficiency in business processes, good communication skills and an aptitude for figures. IT proficiency including Excel, Word and Outlook is also essential.

For further information, Job Profiles and Application Forms please contact Helene Williams by telephoning 22111 or emailing helene.v.williams@sainthelena.gov.sh. Completed application forms should be submitted to this email address or by hand to Audit St Helena, First Floor, New Porteous House, Jamestown, by no later than close of business on **Friday 12 September 2025**.

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community regardless of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, and will consider all applications on the basis of merit, in accordance with the person specification. All disabled applicants meeting the minimum criteria listed in the job profile will be guaranteed an interview. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, including a medical check and vetting/DBS clearance. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on the application form independently verified.

Vacancy

Assistant Supervisor - Silver Hill Shop



Salary for the post will commence at £962 per month (£11,544 per annum)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within Silver Hill Shop for an Assistant Supervisor.

The Assistant Supervisor will assist with the day-to-day supervision of Silver Hill Shop, ensuring customers receive a high standard of service.

Interested Persons Should:

- Possess experience in leadership with the ability to organise and lead a team
- Possess grade C or above in GCSE Maths & English
- Be computer literate namely in the use of Microsoft applications and able to perform administrative duties
- Be knowledgeable of Health & Safety and Manual Handling practices
- Be able to coach and develop team members
- Have a customer focused approach with excellent frontline customer service skills
- Possess knowledge and experience in Stock Management / Control
- Have experience in Cash Handling
- Ideally have experience working in a retail environment
- Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Have the ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment.
- Be able to work on weekends

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

Nicola Constantine, Senior Mercantile Manager via ☎ 25989/22137 ✉ nicola.constantine@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 **11 September 2025**.

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

- 🏠 Pension Contributions
- 👤 Staff Discounts



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Non-Executive Board Director

Bank of St Helena is seeking Expressions of Interest from local persons to serve as a Non-Executive Director on their Board. As a Non-Executive Director you will be required to act with a degree of independence from the operational activities and have a role in providing strategic vision, monitoring the bank's performance, the financial reporting process, the review of risk and controls and governance.

Interested persons should submit their Expressions of Interest and a CV to the Managing Director on managingdirector@sainthelenabank.com or in person at Bank of St Helena Office in Market Street, Jamestown by **5th September 2025**. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview which will take place week beginning 8th September 2025.



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

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

Thomas's Laundry and cleaning service.

We offer general cleaning.

Deep cleaning.

Window cleaning.

Sweeping and mopping of floors.

Emptying of trash.

Dusting and polishing.

Wall and ceiling cleaning.

Laundry service includes washing and ironing.

**Interested person's can
and call 63076 or email
Thomascherilee50@yahoo.com**



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

St Helena Hotel Development Ltd. is seeking Expressions of Interests from suitably qualified persons interested in serving as a non-Executive Director.

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

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

Expressions of Interest should be made using the form and should be submitted, along with a current Curriculum Vitae to the Company Secretary, Miss Nicole Plato via email, or in hardcopy addressed to the Secretary at the Castle, by **12 September 2025**.

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

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT EMERGENCY PLANNING SEEKS DONATIONS FOR LOCAL REST CENTRES

The Emergency Planning Section is currently working to strengthen the capability and resources of the island's local Rest Centres. These centres are designated public places that provide shelter, safety, and support during and after a large emergency event, such as a natural disaster or major evacuation. They offer a place for residents to go if they have no other accommodation available. While the Rest Centres are equipped with survival necessities, additional resources are needed to ensure the comfort of those who may need to use them.

The Emergency Planning Section is calling on the community for donations of items such as:

- Blankets (for both adults and children)
- Books
- Puzzles and Board games
- Playing cards
- Toys and soft toys



Any item that could help provide comfort to individuals and families during a time of crisis would be greatly appreciated.

Donations can be dropped off at the Emergency Planning Office, located in the Sea Rescue Building at Rupert's.

The public's generosity is vital in helping to ensure that St Helena is prepared to care for its residents in the event of an emergency.

Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

Housing Officer (£11,604 per annum)

If you are a highly motivated individual with excellent communication skills, then here is an opportunity for you to join the team at the Property Section, where you will provide an effective and high quality administrative support to the Housing Service. You will be required to carry out housing management functions to include, appropriate checks on all housing applications received, checking references and conducting estate/government property visits.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Melissa Fowler on Tel No 22270 or Email melissa.fowler@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 12 September 2025

Shortlisting date: 17 September 2025

Interview date: 25 September 2025

Assistant PAYE Officer (£10,088 per annum)

Are you interested in taxation? If so, the Treasury has an opportunity to join their Income Tax team. As the Assistant PAYE Officer, you will help employers and employees in understanding the PAYE tax system and confirming that the correct taxes are paid. You will assist the PAYE Officer with the day to day management of the PAYE system in accordance with the Income Tax legislation, providing tax codes and responding to tax queries. You will also maintain the PAYE database and audit tax data.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Pamela Joshua on Tel No 25880 or Email Pamela.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 12 September 2025

Shortlisting date: 17 September 2025

Interview date: 24 September 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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

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

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

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

SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role.

Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena
Government

Education IT Systems Administrator (£15,418 per annum on the IT Cadre)

Are you interested in playing a key supporting role within the transforming digital landscape of the Education Skills & Employment Portfolio? If you are then the IT section has an exciting and rewarding opportunity for you to join their team. This role will entail responsibility for the provision of technical support and the management and maintaining of the IT teaching and learning platforms across the Primary and Secondary sectors. You will undertake or assist in the setup, deployment and management of e-learning and teaching platforms that facilitate progression and delivery of technology within our schools and will provide support and data management of the associated platforms.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Nicole Richards on Tel No. 22819 or
Email: nicole.richards@sainthelena.gov.sh
Closing date: 12 September 2025
Shortlisting date: 17 September 2025
Interview date: 25 September 2025

Benefits

Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays

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

Training and Development

Paid sickness absence

How to apply

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

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INVITATION TO TENDER
PROPOSED COURT YARD ROOF EXTENSION NO.8 PICCOLO & PROPOSED COURT YARD
ROOF EXTENSION NO.14 PICCOLO

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

HSC1-2025/26 – Proposed Court Yard Roof Extension No.8 Piccolo
HSC2-2025/26 – Proposed Court Yard Roof Extension No.14 Piccolo



Site visits for the above-mentioned works will be held as follows:

HSC1-2025/26 – Roof Extension No.8 Piccolo: Monday, 01 September 2025 at 09:30
HSC2-2025/26 – Roof Extension No.14 Piccolo: Monday, 01 September 2025 at 09:00

Contractors should note that site visits requested after this date will not be entertained unless there is a relevant reason why the contractor could not attend the scheduled site visit.

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, located at the Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown on telephone no: 25932 or via email through 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 Wednesday, 10 September 2025, clearly marked with the tender number.

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



INVITATION TO TENDER

REPLACE ASBESTOS ROOF WITH ALUMINIUM ROOFING ST PAULS PRIMARY
SCHOOL (BLOCK A) & ST PAULS PRIMARY SCHOOL SITE COMPOUND AND SCHOOL
FIELD FENCING

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

ESE-25-14-001 – Replace Asbestos Roof with Aluminium Roofing St Paul's Primary School (Block A)
ESE-25-14-002 – St Paul's Primary School Site Compound and School Field Fencing

Site visits for the above-mentioned works will be held as follows:

ESE-25-14-001- Roofing Works: Wednesday, 27 August 2025 at 15:00

ESE-25-14-002 – Site Compound and Fencing Works: Thursday, 28 August 2025 at 15:00

Contractors should note that site visits requested after the given dates will not be entertained unless there is a relevant reason why the contractor could not attend the scheduled site visit.

Copies of the tender document and further details can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, located at the Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown on telephone no: 25932 or via email through 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, 05 September 2025, clearly marked with the tender number.

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

INVITATION FOR NOMINATIONS - COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS 2026

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC) in the UK is inviting nominations from St Helena for Commonwealth Master's Scholarships tenable from September to October 2026. St Helena is invited to nominate one (1) candidate for consideration by the CSC for Master's study. Please note, a nomination does not in any way guarantee selection or placement.

Funded by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Commonwealth Master's Scholarships enable talented and motivated individuals to gain the knowledge and skills required for sustainable development. The CSC aims to identify talented individuals who have the potential to make change and who could not otherwise afford to study in the UK.

The CSC is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination and encourages applications from a diverse range of candidates.

The CSC is committed to supporting outreach activities and providing additional investment for scholarships for people with disabilities and in subject areas related to the rights of people with disabilities. For further information on the support available to candidates with a disability, please see the CSC disability support statement at <https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/apply/csc-disability-support-statement>

These scholarships are offered under six development themes:

1. Science and technology for development
2. Strengthening health systems and capacity
3. Promoting global prosperity
4. Strengthening global peace, security and governance
5. Strengthening resilience and response to crises
6. Access, inclusion and opportunity

Full candidate eligibility requirements are available at <http://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-masters-scholarships/>

How to Apply:

- Candidates must apply using the CSC's online application system which can be found on the CSC website. Each scholarship has a 'How to apply' section which will have information and guidance on the application process and the link to the online application system. The CSC is unable to accept any applications that are not submitted via the online application system. Applications open on 2 September and close on 14 October 2025.

- Persons seeking further information can contact Angela Benjamin Head of Lifelong Learning at the Education Learning Centre, Jamestown, via email to angela.benjamin@sainthelena.gov.sh or by telephone on +290 22607 or +290 53122 by no later than 30 September 2025 to avoid any delays with meeting the closing date deadline.

The Scholarship Awards Committee is the official nominating body for Commonwealth Scholarships and will decide on a suitable nomination based on the set criteria. The CSC will make the final selection of candidates.

THE ROLE OF THE ST HELENA PUBLIC SERVICE

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

What is the Public Service?

The Public Service comprises the Treasury, a Central Support Service and five portfolios:

- Health & Social Care
- Education, Skills & Employment
- Environment, Natural Resources & Planning
- Safety, Security & Home Affairs
- Economic Development.

The Chief Secretary is the head of the Public Service and is supported by senior officials including the Financial Secretary, the Deputy Chief Secretary, the Deputy Financial Secretary and Portfolio Directors who together form the Public Service Senior Leadership Team.

The primary purpose of the Public Service is to serve the Executive Authority vested in the Governor, the Chief Ministers and Ministers, by providing non-partisan advice, developing and implementing policies, and delivering essential public services.

What are the roles and responsibilities of the Public Service?

The Chief Secretary has overall responsibility for the management of the Public Service (including recruitment, structure, and risk and performance management) and is the senior policy adviser to the Governor and the Chief Minister. The Financial Secretary is the principal financial adviser to the St Helena Government and adviser to the Minister with responsibility for finance. Portfolio Directors are responsible for the operational management of their Portfolio. This includes management of their delegated budget and allocation of resources, including staff, to the various services within their Portfolio. They are also responsible for the implementation of strategy, policy and legislation and are the primary policy advisers to the Minister responsible for their Portfolio.

What is the difference in roles between Ministers and Portfolio Directors?

Ministers exercise general direction and have policy control within their Portfolios. The Portfolio Directors are responsible for the day-to-day management and operations of their Portfolios.

How do Ministers work with the Public Service to set the strategic direction?

At the beginning of their term of office, Ministers, led by their Chief Minister, will agree their policy agenda and their priorities within that agenda. This is then incorporated into a Strategic Outcome Framework. This is a holistic, strategically led, long-term framework used to inform short-, medium- and long-term planning, development, investment, prioritization, and decision-making by Ministers at the Portfolio level.

The Public Service develops policy/strategies, objectives/targets and performance indicators, based on policy priorities agreed by Executive Council. Ministers will provide input during the development of these and will communicate progress to the people of St Helena. Ministers approve policy/strategies which are relevant to a particular Portfolio, whilst Executive Council approves policy/strategies which are broader or have a national impact.

What relationship do Ministers have with Portfolio Directors?

The significance of a trusting, confident relationship between Ministers and their senior officials is vital to effective policy design and delivery of government business. It is expected that following their appointments, Ministers will hold structured discussions with their Portfolio Directors to establish clear and mutual understanding of priorities and ways of working. Ministers will ideally be based within their relevant Portfolio and work closely with their Portfolio Director. Both the Minister and the Portfolio Director will be supported on a daily basis by a Portfolio Assistant. Portfolio Directors are answerable to Ministers but are not directly managed by them, the Chief Secretary has line management responsibility for all Portfolio Directors.

It is not expected for Elected Members or senior officials to agree on everything, but leadership requires consensus to achieve and then teamwork to deliver the agreed objectives. The commitment to respecting the principles of democracy and the rule of the majority is clearly set out in the preamble to the 2009 Constitution of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha.

These Information Releases are also available online at: <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/government/public-information/elections/>.



Dear Voters, I wish to share some of the main actions I, CORINDA ESSEX, intend to undertake before the end of this year if re-elected.

My key aim is to improve life on St Helena, and if everyone -especially those on low incomes - had more money in their pockets this would do so. There are two ways to bring this about: (a) Increasing pays, pensions and benefits, and (b) reducing the cost of what people have to pay for. Both ways need pursuing. However, with the financial situation in UK as it is, it is unrealistic to think that (a) will be affordable at a level that would make a big difference, so (b) is more achievable. I, therefore, plan to table a Motion in Legislative Council calling for a review of Customs duties to see how costs on items such as construction materials can be reduced. I will also press for in-depth consideration of MACS Shipping's Option A, which could lower freight costs significantly.

I will follow through on the development of relocation packages for "Saints" with homes overseas who wish to fill jobs for which international recruitment is being undertaken at local salary levels, and do all I can to ensure that these get implemented soon and widely advertised. If money is available to assist those from other countries, it is only fair that our own people can benefit as well.

I will monitor progress regarding the business that is not complying fully with Employment Rights legislation and, if necessary, support employees in taking this matter to the Labour Regulating Authority for appropriate action. Our workers must have their legal rights respected and upheld.

The funding available for construction of badly needed social housing must be promptly spent, and lobbying for this to happen will be a key priority for me, as will the establishment of a Student Scholarship Trust Fund to ensure that all our students who get the required grades and want to go to university can afford to do so.

Another task I will undertake is to go through the backlog of legislation to see what key amendments could be brought forward through Private Member's Bills.

I hope I have given you an insight into some issues that require speedy input. If re-elected, constituents will be able to bring other matters to my attention and I will do my best to address these also. I have dedicated my entire working life to doing what I can for St Helena and, with your support, I will carry on doing so.

VOTE CLINT BEARD



This election is like the previous and the one before that, the difference being that it feels one important factor that whoever gets elected needs to get the Community to regain the trust and confidence in the leadership who is put there to be their voice and decision makers. Now more than ever do we need the Community support, their input will be vital as we try to navigate what is best for the future of the Island. Locals need to be given the first opportunities as we need to preserve a local culture and family life example Child tax allowance, review of tax threshold. **FOOD SECURITY** is crucial as we have seen during Covid, we can produce and we have to support production sectors, meaning all as they all play vital roles in employment and financial stability for many. **ECONOMIC REFORM** making sure we spend money in areas that will improve the island, attracting investment whereby the Island reaps benefits as well and not just the investor. Development of human development especially locals in the first instance, skills are vital in personal development and also in a career choice. Collaborative thinking to prove to UK government who funds most of the budget what plans are in place and the positive spin offs or benefits that will be derived, this will also give them confidence when they report to their ministers in the UK. **RENEWABLE** this should be advanced and this can be done by looking at system installation to homes, whereby the system can be paid over a period of time and possibly the service provider could do installation and maintenance. Tariff review should be done as those trying to save are being penalised with the electricity increase, can consumers using lower number of units be charged less than the 46p per unit if using for example the first 400 units will be at a lower per unit cost. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS** needs to be signed off and given to a service provider for a contract period, only by doing this will any service provider start the changes that we all need. **ACCESS REVIEW** we now have a vessel calling every 4/5 weeks on schedule, we now have to work on possible savings, I suggest a 3 to 5% reduction in customs rates, as a way of sparking more disposable income. Revenue loss means where do we find this from, we look at cost savings in outgoings, subsidy levels, tax on flight tickets, budget transfer of funds. We also need to be looking at the underwriting the UKG provides and how that can be continued. Besides a ticket we have insurance cost which has increased, so we need to make sure we do not trap members of our community. **EDUCATION** the best tool to empower, let this work to our island's advantage and not just for school goers but everyone who wish to develop themselves. We now have better connectivity, use this for more online courses, training of staff, focus on vocational and academic courses alike. Transform our education by building a good foundation in early years and allow this to be carried through. Education can create so much opportunity let's train locals to use that skill on Island if they so desire.

TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE

- TRUST AND CONFIDENCE
- EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY
- FOOD SECURITY—BUY LOCAL
- ECONOMIC REFORM—SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES
- RENEWABLE
- TELECOMMUNICATION
- ACCESS REVIEW
- EDUCATION

#voteclintbeard

#election2025



Colin Bargo

Standing for Fairness, Equality, and Opportunity in St Helena

My Vision

A St Helena where every Saint has the same opportunities, the same pay for the same work, fair treatment in healthcare and everyday life, maximising the full potential of our saints and working in conjunction with consultants and experts in order to deliver a cohesive approach when addressing problems our island faces.

My main priorities

Freight Costs

Low wage earners are struggling to cope with the rising freight costs that causes prices to increase on the island. What can we do to make it better?

We need to look at ways to negotiate with shipping companies for lower freight rates instead of just accepting what is put on the table.

We need to work together and look into all options that will reduce costs and work towards a level playing field for our most vulnerable.

Retired Citizens

Our elderly should not be working after the legal retirement age, but most have to work in order to "make ends meet."

Parental support

Families with young children at times must go without essential food in order to ensure their children get the food they need.

Should we be in this situation taking into account the large sums of money that have been pumped into our island over the past years? Are we spending the tax payers money wisely? This is what we need to look into!

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

How do we expect our young people to afford to build a house with the continued rising costs of land. This was brought about by comparing current prices of land sold by islanders to mainly overseas buyers who have options to buy.

We need to look for ways to keep the costs down for our youngsters by not having to compete with inward investors.

We need to also look at building houses for renting for our younger generation who will not be able to afford their own due to the high costs and low wages.

We need to look into the current Housing loans limits as the current lending limit does not meet the ever increasing cost of land, materials and labour

LOCAL TRADE TRAINING

We have lost the ability to produce a consistent flow of young tradesman, this was the process in the 80s but was not carried on. If we do not bring this back into operation, the island will suffer from not having sufficient trained youngsters in the construction trade to be able to take on contracts without having to recruit from overseas, which is not always the best standards of workmanship.

We need to bring back a training programme as a vision for the islands 10 year strategic plan and integrate our qualified youngsters into the construction trade to boost the economy.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Keeping St Helena unique and also improving living standards for our islanders; reducing stress and unhappiness within families, encouraging saints to return back to their own home.

Transparent, Inclusive Governance

Retaining and using local knowledge, not depending entirely on all of the input and recommendations from overseas consultants and experts which over the past years has not always worked out.

Fishing industry

Reinstating the fishing industry by fish exports which in turn will create extra jobs and income for our island

Farmer support

Improving the continuous supply of vegetables by assisting farmers with subsidies that must be passed to the consumer

Island wide Integration

Working as a team for the benefit of all on the island.

Saint inward investors

We need to consider that our overseas workforce is the main source of income to the island as the majority of them put their hard earned wages back into the island. We should not be charging overseas rates to our own saints, for example: dental checks and procedures

Renewable energies

Harnessing wind and solar power to make the island and the planet more environmentally friendly and reduce our carbon footprint and pass the benefits of this to our utility recipients.

Environmental stewardship & Heritage

Preserve St Helenas unique Flora and fauna while supporting eco tourism

Recycled sewage water

Stop polluting our seas by recycling sewage to be recycled for farming in warmer districts making the island more environmentally safe

Infrastructure

Improving the entire island roads infrastructure and additional parking in Jamestown

Private sector support

Assist the private sector in times of the lack of contracts, by researching for further funding and business opportunities that will provide addition jobs for the Private sector.

Rate of inflation

Inflation rates are increasing due to energy cost, freight costs, essential food and building materials with the minimum wage not being able to cope. With these increasing costs, we also need to look at the "shopping basket" exercise as we always see prices rising on essentials every time we get a new consignment of cargo.

Retaining saints on their own island

We need to work on ways to keep saints living and working on St Helena as this will help to boost our economy as the financial returns will benefit the island and not leave the island.

Recognising the achievements of our returning qualified students and remunerate as applicable.

Our education system must plan ahead to ensure we have the future leaders studying to get the required qualifications to fill in senior roles when they become available on island. We need to give our saints the first opportunity!

Competent Medical practitioners

We need to recruit the best doctors and dentists who are capable of carrying out the full procedures that is expected on our island to prevent huge backlogs that we are currently experiencing.

The population on the island is suffering because of this as the waiting time for appointments is too long.

We need accountability in this directorate.

Fiber optic cable

What has happened to the much anticipated fibre optic cable that has now reached but not being connected to homes and businesses. When will this happen as our Internet connection that we are receiving at present is not up to the standard we expect.

There are numerous problems on island that needs to be addressed, we got ourselves into this situation and now we need to work together to solve these issues.

Leaving school at 15 years I was lucky to be accepted as a furniture and cabinet maker in the Technical Training Centre where I learned my trade which will always stay with me. Some of the other students that attended the centre started their own business and have made them a success.

It saddened me when the Centre closed as we had no conveyor belt of trade going into the future as a result of this, the island is in need of more skilled tradesmen. We need to reinstate this type of training programme soon or we will have to depend on overseas tradesmen which is not always up to standard.

After completing my training I was employed in the Retail environment where I learned another trade and enjoyed going the extra mile for my customers and try to keep them happy.

If I am successful to be chosen as one of the elected members I would like to carry on going the extra mile for the constituents of the island and I would promise to serve and support them to the best of my ability and to bring HOPE to the island community with my fellow elected members.

VOTE

MARTIN HENRY



WELL-BEING WITHIN OUR POWER
PROSPERITY WITHIN OUR REACH
ST HELENA ALWAYS WITHIN OUR HEARTS

**WELLBEING WITHIN OUR POWER,
PROSPERITY WITHIN OUR REACH, ST
HELENA WITHIN OUR HEARTS.**

Our Shared Path

I have made statements over the past four years, some of which still hold true, others requiring reflection and review as I am exposed to more information, but there are persistent data trends that cannot be ignored. The current population projections are at a critical level. Some may compare trends to the past or take comfort in small shifts in headline numbers, but the real story, the one that threatens our future, sits in the detail.

These data sets predict an unstable environment for economic prosperity. The current demographics direct our limited finances to the greatest needs, and whilst morally and ethically they are important, it leaves minimal support for other prosperous activities, which would in turn increase the tax base that funds these very services. The high dependency ratio, low birth rates, working population exodus, combined with chronic diseases, skills gaps, continuous increases in fuel and services, and the infrastructure blunders on critical elements, leaves us, all of us, in the most vulnerable position as a people.

I am never keen to compare people against finances, but this is the raw nature

of the global systems at play, in which we must operate.

During our inaugural ministerial term, decisions were made that have maintained very positive outcomes. But there were also some disappointments, and I take responsibility for any shortcomings in decisions that I had the opportunity to influence. The benefits of hindsight, with having a better understanding of our “bureaucratic process,” and reforming how we work, must be a priority; it has defined my future approach.

It is therefore understandable why many of us resort to pure frustration or anger, but we cannot let this frustration create a “blame-game” culture, mostly directed at individuals, sometimes fuelled by other less informed agents. The deeper issues are systems, organisational culture, and processes that have remained static far too long. Our frustrations come from a deep passion for our Island, our culture, and our perceived way of life.

Our constraints and frustrations do not define us. Our choices will.

WELLBEING WITHIN OUR POWER

My principles and motivation remain simple: to improve our external environment, we must strengthen our internal one—our health, resilience, and sense of purpose. That means confronting our own biases, naming the pitfalls, and backing each other to sometimes do the hard things.

As indicated in my May 2025 budget speech, we have a funded plan to support and spearhead real change.

Our approved prevention strategy was developed through people-centered care modelling and has three overarching areas:

1. Create an information hub using data and new technologies to monitor progress, guide decisions, and

maximize health investments.

2. Strengthen clinical services for Non-Communicable Diseases, access to modern treatments, and care systems to reduce complications.
3. Promote prevention through actively supporting healthier lifestyles, physical activity, and cross-policy actions.

We must, of course fully recognize that no matter the level of support, only we, as individuals, have the power to change.

PROSPERITY WITHIN OUR REACH

Whilst other areas are key in contributing to our prosperity, I will particularly speak to and continue championing two:

- Green Energy that stabilizes our utility costs and our economy, whilst championing our green and blue agenda, subsequently increasing our marketability.

It is disappointing that more advances were not made in this area; however, it has gained momentum in recent months, with considerable progress being made on the regulatory framework. Through a personally formed connection, I had the privilege of attending a Blue Planet Alliance conference in Hawaii with leading holistic experts on this very topic. Achievable aspirations from this conference that I continue to champion include: a Green Energy Framework and a policy direction of 100% with 80% Green Energy as the first benchmark. Reducing associated risks is of the utmost importance; however, no risk calculation will produce certainty, yet we continue to calculate. We must be equally brave and make the bold move. If radical change is necessary, let's get it done and let's move.

- Tourism - There is a flurry of opinions around tourism from many perspectives, particularly around accommodation, amenities, costs of flights, delays, and exposure visits. However, insight gained personally as a tour operator has given me first-hand experience of the genuine joy and amazement from vastly experienced travellers, reinforcing that this is an industry in which we can prosper.

A successful tourism industry will require collaboration between all stakeholders and an evolving, relevant strategy. However, the implementation will require all key stakeholders to find new ways and build upon successes with a disciplined collective focus.

ST HELENA WITHIN OUR HEARTS

We readily criticize SHG, Connect St Helena, Bank of St Helena, and other organisations that provide essential services, but we overlook the human reality behind the names. These organisations are the livelihood of our people - our friends, our family, and neighbours.

Our criticisms are sometimes uninformed, unaware of the overall circumstances, although we quickly defend our areas with very similar excuses – this is a hard pill to swallow, of which I am also guilty. Meaningful scrutiny encourages responsibility. As a community, we should be heard, but it is crucial that we become informed, interested, and more invested. We need structured accountability processes that are fit for purpose – this is a must, but it should be balanced with a tolerable degree of trial and error, fostering creative solutions.

The uncharted potential of Artificial Intelligence offers real potential to overcome isolation and limited resources. It can already reduce the need for expensive consultancy in most fields, enable monitoring, problem-solving, and create superior efficiencies. This will have a profound impact on our productivity within a very short timeframe. We need to recognize these opportunities as well as appropriate precautionary measures at the strategic level.

The role of a politician placed me well outside of my comfort zone; in all honesty, I preferred to be closer to the front line where actions had a direct impact on people. However, the past four years provided me with a holistic view of our complex environment, how it can contribute to uncertainty, how it often impacts our potential, and how it may enable opportunities. But most importantly, it has also led me to the conclusion that when we upskill and empower each other, we realise our Saint potential. St Helena is our home and our heart. The crossroads are real. The choice is ours. Change happens when we all embrace it—honestly, bravely, and together.

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Jeffrey Robert Ellick



I am once again standing for election not because it was a difficult choice, but because it was the only one that felt right. My love for our island runs deep, and my commitment to its future is unwavering. This is more than politics, it's about continuing the journey we have started together, building on what we have achieved, and ensuring that progress remains rooted in care, unity, and hope.

Over the past few years, St Helena has taken important steps forward, steps that reflect our collective will to modernize, strengthen, and serve. The move to a Ministerial system was more than a change in governance; it was a declaration of trust in our people and their elected representatives. It gave Ministers a stronger voice and clearer responsibility, allowing them to act with purpose and be held accountable for real outcomes. Accountability is key!

We stand at a pivotal moment in our island's journey. The foundations laid by the previous Government have brought us progress—but now is the time to build higher, reach further, and ensure that every resident feels the impact of good governance. My vision is clear “A sustainable environment that creates opportunity and inspires social and economic progress, ensuring a better quality of life for all”. This vision was crafted by the previous Government, one I proudly served in and remains as relevant today, as it was then. It puts people first!

Now is not the time to change or disrupt. It is a time to build on the foundations that have been laid. By reinforcing existing policies and introducing new ones that complement the long-term vision, we can secure

We must believe in the power of continuity—not to preserve the status quo, but to protect the gains that have been made. Now, we have the opportunity to deepen what works, to strengthen what matters, and to move forward—not by starting over, but by building on what can be achieved, together.

Stronger Together reflects a simple truth: when we listen, collaborate, and stay the course, we create space for lasting change.

Financial Aid

It remains important that we work closely with our partners to ensure that financial support continues to reflect the genuine needs of our community. By maintaining constructive dialogue and building on existing relationships, we can help secure the resources necessary to deliver essential services and support long-term development. Let's keep up the momentum!

Population Growth

Having taken a balanced and forward-looking approach to immigration, we can now fill critical gaps in our workforce, strengthen vital businesses, and keep our economy competitive in a fast-changing world.

Renewable Energy

Establishing a clear and forward-looking framework for renewable energy is an important step toward greater energy security and long-term affordability. The groundwork has been laid, the policy is in place, and we now must deliver the legislation.

Communication

As we strengthen the telecommunications sector, the groundwork is being laid to ensure a fair competition and responsible service delivery across the community. Reliable and affordable

connectivity isn't a luxury, it's the opportunity to build a future that's inclusive, innovative, and stronger together.

Tax reform

Ensuring our tax system remains balanced and responsive is an important part of maintaining economic stability and social priorities.

Education

Implement COBIS standards to modernize and elevate our education system.

Environment

Advancing our blue and green agenda is a strategic imperative. Our natural assets are central to St Helena's identity and future prosperity. We must act decisively to protect our marine and terrestrial environments, not just for today, but for generations to come.

We have embedded sustainability into the heart of government policy through the vision.

Ability to deliver

St Helena needs strategic and ethical leaders who are capable of fostering and maintain key relationships at all levels and who can deliver key outcomes for St Helena.

I was a part of the Government that delivered on main policies relating to the vision such as immigration which is the catalyst for increasing our working population, the economy and ensuring a high level of security for St Helena. We also became one of the first Oversea Territories to have a Memorandum of understanding with the Home Office, which provides St Helena access to the UK watch list, ensuring all person who are about to enter St Helena are checked, as well as boarder security support and training. St Helena also became the first Overseas Territory to have a memorandum of understanding with the UK Department of Transport after we successfully had our new sea port accredited for International Ships and Port Security. We have developed the Maritime section where St Helena is now working towards an MOU with the UK Government and the Maritime and Coast Guard Agency on delivering our international obligations.

As a Government we were instrumental in negotiating a deal with the UK Government (BIOT Agreement) which saw substantial funding for Medical referrals, preventative health care work, funding to support the reformation of Education to COBIS standards and much need improvements to the Public Service IT systems so we are better protected in respect of cyber security and we have more efficient systems so we can increase productivity.

St Helena have moved to being a leader within the Overseas Territories as well as a real and tangible partner with the UK.

There needs to be a smooth transition in politics if we are to continue seeing benefits going forward, therefore there needs to be continuity. If St Helena wants results and a better future, then vote for people who are strategic, ethical and can deliver.

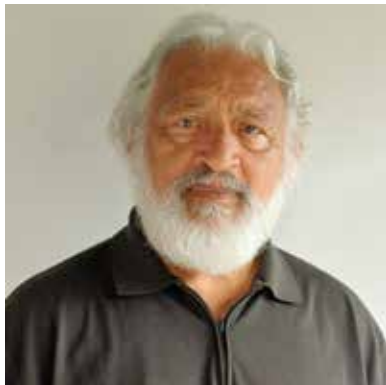
St Helena must now build on the successes and continue to deliver. Let's keep building!

"Anybody can talk, not everybody can talk and deliver"

Vote for continuity! Vote for strategic and ethical leaders who can and have delivered for St Helena!

Vote Jeffrey Ellick X

#PeopleFirst #VoteJeffreyEllick #StrongerTogether #Continuity



General Election – 3rd September 2025

Dear Electorate of St Helena,

Once again you will have your opportunity exercising your democratic right and vote for the 12 people you would like to represent you on the St Helena Legislative Council. Accordingly, I believe I can once again represent the very best interests of the people of St Helena on local Council.

As St Helena is desperately reliant on grant-in-aid from the United Kingdom, it would be irresponsible of me to make any substantial promises based on financial aid assumptions.

However, I can promise the community that I will do my very utmost to ensure the UK Government abides by the Charter of the United Nations, Chapter XI: Article 73; which includes the following extract: as a sacred trust the obligation to promote to the utmost the just treatment and the well-being of the inhabitants of St Helena.

In the past, I have served as a democratically elected representative on Ascension Island, and also here on St Helena. And have remained a firm believer in political openness, transparency, and accountability. Democracy thrives when the people are properly informed by their elected representatives, and elected representatives are exposed to informed public scrutiny and informed public opinion.

Democratic process is best served with the doors to information open as wide as possible to the public.

Increased economic activity increases economic growth:

Just as the Government of the United Kingdom is determined to have improved working relationships with European countries for shared economic growth and ease of travel for citizens and tourists, work should be undertaken to identify the same possibilities between St Helena, Ascension Island and the United Kingdom. Accordingly, going forward with concerted cooperation, I believe the communities of the two islands have the potential to further enrich each other. Therefore, the governments of the United Kingdom, Ascension Island and St Helena must urgently develop plans to take such work forward.

The interesting and different characteristics of the two “sister islands” will complement each other through the eyes of the traveling visitor. And additional flight options for St Helena will encourage St Helena’s valuable offshore workers/investors to return home more often and further boost the local economy.

St Helena Airport – already going on 10 years in operation:

The UK Government’s initial predicted calculations on Air Access for St Helena were:

‘...an airport is expected to permit greater opportunities for St Helena to become self-sufficient. It is likely to eliminate the budget subsidy from the UK at some point in the future and generate a range of economic opportunities for St Helenians. ...the annual number of round trips made by Saints and business travellers would rise from the current level of 1,820 to over 14,000 over the 40 year period, while the annual number of tourist arrivals would grow from the current level of 1,439 to 59,000 over the same period. Other benefits would include lower transport costs and time savings for existing travellers and additional travellers that take advantage of cheaper and quicker travel to St Helena. The present value of benefits was estimated to exceed £700 million.’

Accordingly, if such official calculations and predictions were realistic, and is still achievable – then the best is yet to come for St Helena. But only if there is the willingness and the determination, involving the three governments in question, to seriously transform the current flight provisions and options.

Enhanced economic returns for St Helena, from the UK’s £300 million airport investment, will require innovative action to bring about substantial economic growth through air access.

Conversely, those long-term potential aspirations, attached to air access for St Helena, will never be

realised by just maintaining the current travel options to and from St Helena – year after year.

Commitment to serve the people:

If you were to ask me what I consider as one of my most satisfying achievements during my last tenure serving on the St Helena Legislative Council (2017 – 2021), it was having a leading role in reviewing the Social Security Ordinance. And consequently, helping to get rid of, the then, 9-year-old appalling ‘household income policy’. The policy placed financial penalties on the people who were already struggling to cope with the high cost of living in St Helena.

I would also like to reflect on the special satisfaction I had from helping to reinstate Agriculture on the secondary school curriculum; and thereby reactivate the learning and growing activities at Harpers.

The island desperately needs to invest more concentrated efforts into growing more local produce – both vegetable and fruit.

If elected to serve on the Legislative Council again, I will primarily focus on the requests and the needs of constituents at District level, champion the interests of our senior citizens, and maintain accountability through persistent scrutiny of Government on behalf of you – the constituent.

God bless

Yours Sincerely

Cyril Kenneth Leo
St Pauls

The Rt Hon Sir Andrew Mitchell is the Conservative MP for Sutton Coldfield

Published on 22 July 2010

From: Department for International Development and The Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP

‘Airport to revitalise British St Helena

The go ahead for an airport on the island of St Helena will be given by International Development Secretary Andrew Mitchell ...’

.....
Email – 18 August 2025

Dear Sir Andrew Mitchell,

It has been a very long time since we have had any kind of contact. I reflect on the valuable meeting with you in the UK and on your visit to St Helena with much pleasure and high esteem.

As there will be a General Election on 3rd September 2025 in St Helena, I would like to share with you my letter to the electorate of St Helena.

I sincerely believe you are still passionate for the people of St Helena to comprehensively make good progress going forward with the help of Air Access. Therefore, with reference to the challenge of enhancing air access, I would appreciate if you will kindly use your good offices to advocate accordingly, within the Houses of Parliament, on behalf of the people of St Helena,

Thank you kindly.

Cyril Kenneth Leo
St Pauls



PLANS INTO PROGRESS: TURNING VISIONS INTO REALITY FOR ST HELENA



When good intentions sit on a shelf, our island stands still. "Plans into Progress" is a commitment to break that cycle and make a visible improvement in people's lives. For too long, debates have outlasted deadlines and promising ideas have faded without follow-through. Words mean nothing without action.

Every delayed or abandoned project chips away at trust. When we talk about cleaner water, cheaper energy, or stronger roads but don't act, families face higher bills, businesses struggle, and confidence in government erodes. St Helena's potential dims with every missed opportunity.

Accountability isn't just a buzzword—it's the mechanism that transforms intention into impact. With clear responsibilities, concrete deadlines and honest engagement with the public, we can make follow-through inevitable.

"Plans into Progress" is vital because with solid actions we can reverse the downward spiral and begin to grow again. Each win, no matter how small, builds capacity for bigger projects, helping us Fix the Foundations.

"Plans into Progress" is vital because with solid actions we can reverse the downward spiral and begin to grow again. Each win, no matter how small, builds capacity for bigger projects, helping us Fix the Foundations.

Time and again, we're told by consultants how to fix our challenges—yet their reports all too often gather dust while real solutions sit within reach of the boots on the ground who tackle these issues every single day. By shifting trust and resources to local expertise, we ensure each plan is infused with lived experience and built to last.

"Plans into Progress" is about creating homegrown victories that benefit every district and every home. Shifting from imported top-down decisions and putting local voices first not only helps us all get on board with action but makes our democracy stronger and delivers on Our Island, Our Say.

Together, we can transform blueprints into clean water, reliable energy, and smoother roads—and in doing so, we'll restore confidence in the power of local democracy, because when our island leads with action, Our Island, Our Say becomes the heartbeat of our future.

"Plans into Progress" is about ensuring that good intentions lead to real impact. By holding ourselves to the highest standards of accountability and tapping into the local knowledge we'll build the foundations for a safer, stronger, and more prosperous St Helena.



"OUR ISLAND OUR SAY"

VOTE ANDREW TURNER



**YOUR VOICE IN
DECISIONS**



**YOUR RIGHTS
UPHELD**



**YOUR TRUST
VALUED**

Rebecca Cairns-Wicks: Candidate for St Helena General Election 2025



Why I'm Standing and How I Can Make a Difference

St Helena is at a turning point. Our population is shrinking and ageing. Last year there were 59 deaths and only 17 births. Unless we can give people a reason to stay, return, and build their lives here, and open up opportunities to invest and grow businesses to build a stronger community and economy, the long-term future for St Helena and our way of life, is bleak.

Progress is too slow, everyone is feeling the pressure from high costs of utilities, communications, food and housing and wants change to make life more affordable. The challenge is finding the right solutions that can bring immediate relief while laying the foundations for long-term renewal. That is why I am standing. To help turn managed decline into managed renewal.

Every person matters. Restoring fairness and hope means investing in our people, supporting and valuing our elders and vulnerable people, and making life affordable and sustainable.

Our strong community spirit and shared commitment for a better future gives us the common ground to build on. We can turn things around.

As a candidate I bring:

- **Experience** across education, research, environment, agriculture, and land planning.
- **Collaboration** through strong relationships with government, charities, organisations and academic institution, here and overseas.
- **Leadership** in setting up organisations, securing funding and delivering impactful projects.
- **Innovation** in digital and research initiatives through the St Helena Research Institute.
- **Commitment** - I work hard, listen well, and get things done.

If elected, my three immediate priorities are simple and clear:

Make life more affordable.

Support families and education.

Diversify and grow our economy.

We all feel the squeeze of rising costs. I will push for fair systems and accountability, from utility and telecoms providers. Affordable internet and phone services for homes, schools, and businesses. Fairer taxes and reduction in duties on essential goods and food, so that people's incomes can go further.

Our older people deserve dignity. I will fight for better pensions, stronger social care, and real support where it's needed most.

On farming, I will back young farmers, support innovation, and keep food affordable while protecting our environment.

And we must take seriously the growing threats of invasive species to our health, our farming, and our biodiversity.

Families are the heartbeat of our island. If we want them to stay or return, they need opportunity and stability. I will work to strengthen education at every level, expand training and career pathways, and push for fairer access to housing finance, land for building, and affordable childcare. Families must feel they can build their lives here with hope and security.

St Helena has never stood alone financially. UK support for essential services must continue. But we also need to take more responsibility for our own future. That means removing barriers to business, supporting our traditional industries and encouraging new ones: innovation, entrepreneurs, and investment in people.

I will push for an updated Land Development Control Plan shaped with community input, so every district has a voice in our island's future.

Let's Build St Helena's Future Together

We can choose to let challenges hold us back, or we can face them together. Change will take time, and things may be hard before they get better, but with honesty, determination and by working together, we can build a stronger future.

I believe in a St Helena where every person matters, where families can thrive, young people have reasons to stay, or return and elders are valued and supported.

If you give me your vote, I will:

- Stand up for you with honesty and integrity.
- Work with others to deliver real results.
- Listen, involve you, and make decisions openly and fairly.
- Base every choice on sound knowledge and what is best for our community.

This election is your chance to say **YES** to a more inclusive, capable, and forward-looking St Helena.

Let's do this, together. **Vote** Rebecca Cairns-Wicks. ✉ rebecca@helanta.co.sh | 📞 24419 | 📠 51322

2025 GENERAL ELECTION

VOTE for

RONALD COLEMAN

THE PEOPLE'S VOICE



**ALWAYS REPRESENTING
THE PEOPLE OF ST HELENA
FOR A BETTER FUTURE AND
QUALITY OF LIFE
SPEAKING ON YOUR BEHALF
PROTECTING YOUR ISLAND
AND YOU THE PEOPLE
LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND**

SO VOTE

COLEMAN R.A.

X



Karl Thrower

For Councillor

Affordable Housing

Owning a home on St Helena should be a realistic goal, not an impossible dream. Yet for too many working families, the cost of land, building, or buying is far beyond reach. This forces many into long-term rentals or Government Landlord Housing, putting personal ambitions on hold, limiting wealth-building for families, and creating growing pressure on public finances. Without change, the gap between those who own and those who never can will only widen.

It's time for an **out-of-the-box approach** that delivers genuine affordability. That means:

- **Affordable land** released specifically for first-time buyers and commercial rental accommodation such as flats and apartments.
- **New housing types** such as apartments, duplexes, and starter homes to suit different budgets and life stages.
- **Smarter financing** with lower interest rates and longer-term mortgages, making monthly payments manageable for working households.

Our Island's future economy relies on a modern, often temporary, workforce in sectors such as healthcare, education, and tourism. Many of these workers struggle to find **affordable, good-quality rental accommodation**.

Affordable housing is about giving people the stability to raise families, keeping our young people here, stimulating the economy through construction and imports, and creating skilled local jobs. Every new home built—whether owned or rented—is an investment in our community's future.

As your representative, I will champion policies that remove barriers and open the door to home ownership for ordinary working people, while also ensuring rental accommodation meets the needs of today's workforce. This is not about handouts—it's about fairness, opportunity, and building a stronger St Helena for the next generation.

Clarity. Honesty. Accountability. Together, we can turn housing from a crisis into a cornerstone of our Island's success.



Karl Thrower

For Councillor

Better Communication

Open government. Informed people. Stronger democracy.

Good governance starts with good communication. Yet too often, people feel left in the dark—uninformed about decisions, disconnected from leadership, and unheard in public debates. That's unacceptable.

The transition to a ministerial system promised transparency and accountability. But in practice, communication has often become less open, not more. That must change.

We have the tools: radio, newspapers, websites, social media—and now, thanks to the fibre optic cable, faster internet. What we need is the political will to use them consistently and effectively. I will push for:

- Regular public updates from Ministers and Councillors including EXCO meeting
- More live Q&A sessions, interviews, and open forums
- Simple, jargon-free explanations of key policies and firmer KPI's
- Stronger public engagement through multiple digital platforms

When people are informed, they feel empowered. When they're excluded, they lose faith in the system. I believe in a government that listens, responds, and speaks plainly. With clarity, honesty, and accountability, we can rebuild trust and make communication a pillar of good governance.



Karl Thrower

For Councillor

Clarity, Honesty, Accountability

A Commitment to Transparent and Responsible Leadership

As a candidate for local councillor on the Island of St Helena, I am committed to a style of leadership grounded in clarity, honesty, and accountability. These aren't just slogans — they are the foundation of good governance and the pillars of public trust.

Clarity means open communication and transparent decision-making. I will ensure that council policies, plans, and decisions are explained in plain language, so every resident knows what's being done and why. No jargon. No confusion. Just straight answers and visible leadership.

Honesty is the foundation of integrity. I will always be truthful, speak openly about challenges and opportunities, and never shy away from difficult conversations. St Helena deserves representatives who are sincere, principled, and unafraid to tell the truth.

Accountability means taking ownership. I will stand by my decisions, invite scrutiny, and welcome feedback. I believe in a council that listens, learns, and works with the community — not above it.

These values reflect my vision for a more open, effective, and people-centred council — one that respects your voice, earns your trust, and delivers results in full view of the public.

St Helena deserves leadership that is transparent, honest, and answerable to the people. That is the standard I will uphold.

FOLLOW THE SHFA SEASON 2025

Every week we will bring you the latest results, table standings and all information relating to the SHFA football season 2025.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

After a weeks break due to a water logged pitch, Round 2 of the SHFA league went ahead with Saturday leaders of the table Bellboys taking on bottom of the table Intergalactic following with Sundays games.

See results below..

Saturday 23rd August Bellboys 25— Intergalactic 0

Goalscorers Bellboys— Joey Thomas 11, Taylan Phillips 5, Ryan Benjamin 2, Tyler Brady 2, Weston Clingham 2, Scott Henry, Aiden Duncan, Dane Wade

Man of the Match— Joey Thomas (Bellboys)

Sunday 24th August Le Verde 2 — Rovers 12

Goalscorers Le Verde — Ryan Stevens, Tyler Anthony

Goalscorers Rovers— Blaize Baldwin 6, Ronan Legg 3, Clayton Benjamin, Rico Benjamin, Shaquille Benjamin

Man of the Match— Rico Benjamin (Rovers)

Young Player of the Match— Blaize Baldwin (Rovers)

Sunday 24th August Fugees 1— Wirebirds 5

Goalscorers Fugees — Lars Williams

Goalscorers Wirebirds— Kyle Shoesmith 3, Korben Minto 2

FOOTBALL TABLE

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>PLAYED</u>	<u>WIN</u>	<u>DRAW</u>	<u>LOST</u>	<u>G/FOR</u>	<u>G/AGAINST</u>	<u>G/DIFFERENCE</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Bellboys	5	5	0	0	86	2	82	15
Wirebirds	6	4	0	2	45	17	28	12
Rovers	5	4	0	1	31	9	22	12
La Verde	6	2	0	4	25	40	-15	6
Fugees	5	1	0	4	13	30	-17	3
Inter Galactic	5	0	0	4	1	103	-100	0

TOP 5 GOALSCORERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>GOALS</u>
Joey Thomas	Bellboys	35
Kyle Shoesmith	Wirebirds	14
Jorden Johnson	La Verde	13
Taylan Phillips	Bellboys	13
Blaize Baldwin	Rovers	13

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Saturday 30th August @2pm	Rovers vs Bellboys
Sunday 31st August @ 1:30pm	La Verde vs Fugees
Sunday 31st August @ 3:30pm	Intergalactic vs Wirebirds

FOLLOW THE JUNIOR LEAGUE SEASON 2025

Every week we will bring you the latest results, table standings and all information relating to the Junior League football season 2025.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

New Horizons Stars 0 – Young Gunners 28

Goalscorers Young Gunners – Kian Stroud 15, Lamar Peters 6, Dillion Richards 5, Seth Lawrence 2,

MOM— Kunashe (New Horizons Stars)

Kian Stroud (Young Gunners)

Rumblers 27 – Dabbing Devils 0

Goalscorers Rumblers – Cruz Williams 9, Luton Yon 6, Ozel Stevens 4, Conan Sim 4, Alexis Williams 3, OG 1

POM—Cruz Williams (Rumblers)

Logan Yon (Dabbing Devils)

Black Mumbas 3 – Golden Gladiators 11

Goalscorers Black Mumbas – Tyler Anthony 3,

Goalscorers Golden Gladiators— Levi Williams 5, Jude Jacobs 3, Kaiden Scott 2, OG 1

Monarchs 8 – Flix 5

Goalscorers Monarchs— Zach Francis 3, Harry Winfield 3, Bethany Bennett, Hugo Richards

Goalscorers Flix— Lebron George 4, Ryan Stevens

POM—Lebron George (Flix)

TOP 5 GOALSCORERS

NAME	TEAM	GOALS
Kian Stroud	Young Gunners	17
Cruz Williams	Rumblers	16
Luten Yon	Rumblers	9
Conan Sim	Rumblers	7
Ozel Stevens	Rumblers	7

NAME	TEAM	GOALS
Tyler Anthony	Black Mumbas	10
Lebron George	Flix	10
Levi Williams	Golden Gladiators	9
Jude Jacobs	Golden Gladiators	6
Ryan Stevens	Flix	5

FOOTBALL TABLE

TEAM	P	W	D	L	G/F	G/A	G/D	PTS
Rumblers	3	2	1		45	4	41	7
Young Gunners	2	1	1		32	4	28	4
New Horizons FC	2	1		1	3	15	-12	3
New Horizons Stars	2	1			1	28	-27	3
Dabbing Devils	3			2	1	31	-30	0

TEAM	P	W	D	L	G/F	G/A	G/D	PTS
Flix	2	1	1		11	9	2	4
Black Mumbas	2	1		1	13	7	6	3
Golden Gladiators	1	1			8	4	4	3
Vikings	2		1	1	8	13	-5	1
Monarchs	1			1	1	9	-8	0

UPCOMING FIXTURES

ALL MATCHES ON SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST

VIKINGS	VS	MONARCHS	9am
NEW HORIZONS STARS	VS	RUMBLERS	9am
GOLDEN GLADIATORS	VS	FLIX	9:45am
NEW HORIZONS FC	VS	YOUNG GUNNERS	9:45am

FROM THE COUCH

Contributed by Leigh & Louis

Match of the week, chosen and reported on by 10 year old Football Enthusiast Louis this week was Monday Nights game between Liverpool and Newcastle.

Sixteen-year-old Rio Ngumoha scored the winner in the 10th minute of stoppage time on his Premier League debut as Liverpool earned a thrilling 3-2 victory over 10-man Newcastle United.

Liverpool looked to be cruising towards back-to-back wins when they went two goals and a player up amid a fiery atmosphere at St James' Park, fuelled by their rumoured interest in Alexander Isak.



Ryan Gravenberch struck a 35th-minute opener before Anthony Gordon was sent off for a reckless lunge on Virgil van Dijk and Hugo Ekitike – a former Newcastle transfer target – then put Liverpool 2-0 up early in the second half, along with a Bruno Guimaraes header and a predatory 88th-minute finish from substitute William Osula looked to have secured an unlikely point for Newcastle, but they could not hold on.

Having been sent on by Arne Slot six minutes into stoppage time, Ngumoha was the hero, sweeping into the far corner at the death to keep Liverpool perfect. Newcastle are five points behind the champions with a single point on the board.



Friday 22 nd	West Ham	1	5	Chelsea
Saturday 23 rd	Man City	0	2	Tottenham
Saturday 23 rd	Bournemouth AC	1	0	Wolves
Saturday 23 rd	Brentford	1	0	Aston Villa
Saturday 23 rd	Burnley	2	0	Sunderland
Saturday 23 rd	Arsenal	5	0	Leeds
Sunday 24 th	Crystal Palace	1	1	Nottm Forest
Sunday 24 th	Everton	2	0	Brighton
Sunday 24 th	Fulham	1	1	Man United
Monday 25 th	Newcastle	2	3	Liverpool



Saturday 30 th	12:30	Chelsea	vs	Fulham
Saturday 30 th	15:00	Man United	vs	Burnley
Saturday 30 th	15:00	Sunderland	vs	Brentford
Saturday 30 th	15:00	Tottenham	vs	Bournemouth
Saturday 30 th	15:00	Wolves	vs	Everton
Saturday 30 th	17:30	Leeds	vs	Newcastle
Sunday 31 st	14:00	Brighton	vs	Man City
Sunday 31 st	14:00	Nottm Forest	vs	West Ham
Sunday 31 st	16:30	Liverpool	vs	Arsenal
Sunday 31 st	19:00	Aston Villa	vs	Crystal Palace

*Please note that times for St Helena are 1 hour earlier.

We will be back next week with all the latest from the Premier League

APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

- Application 2025/77:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Installation of Two AC Units in the Governor's Office and An Outdoor Condenser Unit Positioned on Roof**, The Castle on Parcel JT030009. Applicant: Governor's Office, FCDO
- Application 2025/78:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Change of Use from Class D1 to House of Multiple Occupation (HMO)**, Former Longwood School on Parcel LWS0022. Applicant: Head of Property Division, St Helena Government
- Application 2025/79:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Installation of 10 Bollards**, High Knoll Fort on Parcel HTH1386. Applicant: St Helena National Trust

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

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

Public Representation Closing Date: 4pm – 12 September 2025

Patricia Coyle, Head of Planning & Building Control

MACS SHIPPING SCHEDULE UPDATE



WHATEVER
YOU NEED
TO SHIP

	GOLDEN KAROO 251216	BRIGHT SKY 251217	GREEN MOUNTAIN 251219
Immingham	12-Jul	09-Aug	06-Sep
	KAROLINE 251708	KAROLINE 251709	KAROLINE 251710
Cape Town	20-Aug	15-Sep	11-Oct
Rupert's Bay	27-Aug	23-Sep	19-Oct
Ascension Island	-	-	-
	KAROLINE 251808	KAROLINE 251808	KAROLINE 251808
Cape Town	09-Sep	06-Oct	1-Nov

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



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Karl Thrower

For Councillor

A BETTER FUTURE WITH:

Private sector development

Better communication

Lower utility prices

Affordable housing

Accountability

Transparency

Clarity

Honesty

Accountability



VOTE

FOR A BETTER FUTURE

VOTE FOR CHANGE