

THE ST HELENA INDEPENDENT



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The Airport - How Events Unfolded



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Government Issues Airport Q&A

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Personal Cargo Now Scanned for Hazards

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Tourist Office Now Airport Information Drop-In Centre

"St Helena Tourism requests that all persons currently delayed on St Helena due to the temporary downgrading of the airport please..."

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NATIONAL MAJOR INCIDENT DECLARED

How Events Unfolded

Friday 6th

It all kicked off at 2:23pm on Friday. An SHG press release arrived which, in the first place, confirmed there is no smoke without fire. Air Safety Support International (ASSI) had ordered that St Helena airport be closed. All Friday morning Jamestown was filled with rumours about some kind of disaster at the airport.

All three Fire tender unserviceable

The one reason given for the closure was that all three fire tenders were unserviceable. ASSI is the aviation regulator overseeing the UK Overseas Territories. As regulator, ASSI has wide powers for inspections, standards and compliance. Questions about all the fire tenders being out of action at the same time, and so suddenly it seemed, persisted all week.

Airport closure meant all Airlink's passenger flights were cancelled "until at least 20th February" and, at the time of SHG announcement on Friday, medical evacuation flights were in doubt. People directly affected were told to contact Solomon's Shipping at the Malabar. Social media was understandably buzzing with all sorts of posts expressing confusion, fears, suspicions and frustrations. Apart from posts from Cheryl Moyce Tingler. All of them had photos of family and friends eating – in between big smiles.

Saturday 7th

Don't Call Us – We'll Call You

A second SHG press release was issued in the morning on behalf of The Customs and Immigration Department. It informed, 'no action required from individuals in relation to their immigration status as a result of the airport closure.' Added to that was, 'Should it become necessary to contact specific individuals, further guidance will be issued directly and through official channels.' That sounds very similar to 'don't call us, we'll call you. Contact details for the Immigration Office were included. Also included was 'during normal office hours.' How many tourists know that means everything shuts at 4pm? How many tourists know what the official channels are?

Contact Information Trickles Out Slowly

In the late afternoon another press release stating, anyone currently awaiting overseas medical treatment will receive ongoing contact and regular updates. The press release added, 'We wish to reassure all tourists and visitors that their health remains a priority.' Also, top-ups on medication can be bought from the Jamestown Pharmacy during normal opening hours. Of course, every tourist knows when the pharmacy closes for a lunch break. The contact details for Solomons and Immigration were repeated and Airlink email addresses for e-tickets and customer care were added. Slowly does it.

Sunday 8th

In the morning the Independent emailed 17 questions to the Chief Secretary. The questions were based on conversations, phone calls and emails received. An auto-reply said emails were not seen as promptly as usual because the airport closure meant working away from the office had suddenly become the norm. OK – worth a try.

Medevac Flights OK

On Sunday afternoon a third SHG press release announced the airport had been certified by ASSI for use by 'small aircraft'. Small aircraft operation made medical evacuations possible once more. Also made possible was flying in urgently needed spare parts for the fire tenders and any technical personnel who may be required. This first step in recovery of airport operations was due to "the support of the SHG Fire and Rescue Service". It is assumed the 'support' was temporary loan of the required number of fire engines. Unfortunately, bigger, more powerful fire tenders are needed before commercial airline operation is permitted.

On the basis of the information provided, re-establishing commercial airline operation means bringing

NATIONAL MAJOR INCIDENT DECLARED

How Events Unfolded

in the required spares on a light aircraft and fitting them to the vehicles. After that, with clearance from ASSI it should be all systems go.

Monday 9th

The email with a list of 17 questions, sent on Sunday morning to the Chief Secretary was forwarded, using the official channels at the start of normal opening hours. One more question was added. The prompt reply stated, 'We appreciate that the community has questions, for this reason we have been developing a Q&A which will be published soon. The Gold Command, which comprises all relevant senior officials, are working on gathering accurate, comprehensive answers to the community's questions.' The Q&A was published on Tuesday.

Radio Communication Used for First Time

The Governor and the Chief Minister recorded a statement which was broadcast on both radio stations. The Governor said that authorisation to land small aircraft meant they could move forward at speed but there were no new developments reported.

Governor's Commitment

The Governors said during the recorded radio statement 'We will absolutely examine what has happened, not least because none of us want this to happen again. That work will be done with transparency, but it must be done in the right way and at the right time. We will not take any action that prejudices the proper processes that will follow.

For now, it is critical we keep our eye on the ball and nothing can be allowed to interfere with the immediate operational effort to restore our commercial air access.'

Later there was another SHG press release about a cruise ship visit which probably will not happen on Wednesday because the sea is lively. Nothing about the Karoline being delayed off-loading for the same reason.

Tuesday 10th

Medevac Flight Scheduled

Another update in the afternoon announced that a medevac flight is expected on Wednesday. The 20th February target for returning to normal airport operation still remained.

Spares for Repair on the Way

Then the headline news came in the middle of the text; Specialised spare parts are currently en route from Germany. They are 'expected to arrive later this week'. Tantalisingly vague, but carefully managing expectations. Further caution causes a sinking feeling, we were warned, 'Fitting, reassembly and testing are complex and will take a number of days.' What on earth is wrong with these fire tenders, you may ask. What started as the best bit of news all week ended with a further caution – nothing is guaranteed until at least two fire tenders have been put back together again and testing is successful. That is stating the obvious, but there will be many whose hearts leapt at the news about the required spares being on their way who now wish they still had finger nails left to bite after reading the rest of it.

New Fire Tenders Needed

The next bit of information probably means none of us will have well-manicured nails. 'With the potential support of the UK Government, subject to certain conditions, we are seeking two new fire appliances. As these are highly specialised vehicles, they are typically built to order; however, we are actively exploring all alternatives for both temporary and permanent replacements.'

What on earth is wrong with these fire tenders all of a sudden? Or is it all of a sudden? Obtaining replacement fire tenders is clearly not going to happen quickly. Harsh reality strongly suggests that wind and low cloud will not be the only ever-present hazards to air travel in the immediate future.

NATIONAL MAJOR INCIDENT DECLARED

How Events Unfolded

Island Fire Service Stretched

Another press release originated from the Fire and Rescue Service. We were told, 'due to the situation at the airport, the St Helena Fire and Rescue Service will provide fire cover at the airport only when flights are in operation, ensuring aviation safety requirements are met'. If fire cover is only provided at the 'airport only' when a plane arrives or leaves, the claim that this arrangement will not impact on the rest of the island is plainly incorrect. The risk is low, but if normal fire cover is not provided, for whatever reason, there are unquestionably and inevitably potential consequences arising from that.

Stranded Cape Town Passengers Moved to Jo-burg

Lastly, island residents are being relocated from Cape Town to Jo'burg. The schedule for Cape Town flights has now passed. Sorry, one more thing: stranded passengers are reaching the time limit for health cover on their travel insurance and may want to pay extra to extend it.

At Last – A Real Effort at Communication

It was after normal opening hours when the Head of Tourism emailed local media with this radio announcement –

St Helena Tourism requests that all persons currently delayed on St Helena due to the temporary downgrading of the airport please register their contact details with the Tourism Office via phone on 22158 or email visit@sainthelena.gov.sh

Daily Update Sessions - St Helena Tourism is hosting daily update sessions at the Mantis Hotel between 09:30 and 10:00

Tourism Office Opening Hours - The Canister, Jamestown

- *Weekdays: 08:30 – 16:00*
- *Weekends: 09:00 – 12:00*

The Canister Meeting Room is available during these hours for those requiring a workspace.

At last! A welcome effort to provide an information facility offering face-to-face contact with 'the public' which is open daily and centrally located. With the continuing uncertain situation arising from the need for new fire tenders at the airport, it might be a good idea to have a permanent, direct, reliable information link between the Airport and the Tourist Office. If one exists already, local media will be happy to make sure this is well known.

Wednesday 11th

Wednesday was quieter than Tuesday for airport information. Now, it seems, we just sit and wait for the new parts to arrive for the fire tenders.

A public announcement told us the cruise ship Azamara arrived and disembarked passengers at Rupert's. That was unexpected and a decision made by the ship's captain, we're told.

Meanwhile, the Karoline remained anchored in James Bay due to the sea conditions. The explanation given was that Cruise ship passengers are transferred using small tenders that can manoeuvre better in varying sea conditions. The Karoline risked damaging itself and Rupert's jetty if it tried tying up to the jetty. The Karoline manoeuvred into Rupert's yesterday after being anchored in the Bay for three days.

The St Helena Independent
April Cottage
Putty Hill
Alarm Forest
Tel: 00 290 23836
independent@helanta.co.sh

To ensure inclusion, please submit adverts and copy by 1pm on Wednesdays. Later requests subject to available space.



Airport Closure Q&A

The St Helena Government (SHG) acknowledges the significant disruption and concern caused by the current suspension of commercial air services. We are committed to providing the community with a comprehensive update on our progress toward restoring full operations. To address specific questions raised by the public, we have prepared the following Q&A document based on the most current information available.

Question	Answer
What issues do the fire trucks (tenders) have?	The airport has two primary 6x6 Airport Fire Fighting vehicles and a secondary 4x4. All three vehicles have developed unserviceable water pumps due to a common component failure within the pump gearboxes.
When was the problem identified?	<p>The fault was first identified in December 2025 during the scheduled annual service of one primary fire tender. The vehicle was declared unserviceable and taken offline. An immediate order was placed for spares and replacement pumps. This did not affect air operations, and we remained at Category 6 approval.</p> <p>To mitigate risk, we introduced inspection of the second primary truck every second week, to monitor for similar issues.</p> <p>Despite these precautions, in February the second truck developed a more severe manifestation of the same fault following an oil check. This left the Airport unable to maintain compliance with the Category 6 requirement.</p>
Why wasn't the issue identified earlier? Why didn't regular maintenance pick this up early enough?	The pump gearbox is serviced on an annual basis, and it was during this scheduled work that the initial fault was discovered. The manufacturer's maintenance requirement is for annual servicing.
Why can't the airport operate without fire trucks?	The Airport operates under Air Safety Support International (ASSI), which issues the Overseas Territories Aviation Requirements (OTARs) in alignment with Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) standards. These regulations define both the level of fire-fighting capability an airport must maintain, and the maximum aircraft size permitted to operate there. At present, the Airport is only able to operate at Category 4.
One fire truck having a fault is understandable but all three at	Our priority is restoring air operations to Category 6. We will then investigate the circumstances leading up

Continues on NEXT PAGE...



Airport Closure Q&A

Continues from PREVIOUS PAGE...

the same time – how was this allowed to happen?	to this situation, establishing the facts objectively and seeking to identify any root causes.
What is the plan to get the fire truck parts to the island?	The parts have been sourced and are currently en route to the island. We expect to receive them later this week.
How long will the disruption to service be?	We do not expect any scheduled flights to operate before 21 February at the earliest, however, we will provide regular updates.
What about medical evacuations?	The current Category 4 approval means that medevac flights can operate normally.
What impact will this have on medication and other essentials being airfreighted?	At present our stock levels of medication are not at risk, we are keeping this under close review. Category 4 approval means we do have a viable air route for emergencies.
What support is being offered to passengers waiting to travel inbound and outbound during the disruption and who is paying for this?	<p>For residents inbound, SHG has arranged with Solomons to assist with accommodation and subsistence during the period of the delay. This will only apply to residents coming home.</p> <p>Until further notice, people are urged not to travel to South Africa for onward travel to St Helena unless they are returning home.</p> <p>For outbound residents, people are encouraged to contact their travel provider.</p> <p>For outbound visitors, we are providing tailored assistance whilst on island. Visitors should contact Solomons in the first instance or the General Hospital with any health concerns.</p>
What options are being considered to resolve the issue and get the airport back in operation?	We are pursuing a range of options to return the airport to normal operations as quickly as possible. Spare parts are now en route to the island, and we are looking to source alternate fire appliances with the potential support of the United Kingdom Government (UKG). We are exploring all viable options in parallel to ensure the quickest short-term and best long-term solutions.
What agencies/people are involved?	In St Helena's emergency framework, Gold Command acts as the strategic leadership responsible for setting objectives during a major incident. It is led by the



Airport Closure Q&A

	<p>Chief Secretary. This group ensures the response has the necessary resources and political alignment. Supporting this structure is the St Helena Resilience Forum (SHRF), a multi-agency body that includes emergency services, government portfolios, and utility providers. This includes SHG officials, St Helena Airport Ltd, Solomon & Company Shipping & Travel. All are actively engaged and collaborating to bring the situation to resolution.</p>
Will new and existing flight bookings be suspended until the problem is resolved and the airport returns to Category 6??	<p>Airlink have currently suspended new bookings to St Helena to avoid confusion. This should not be taken as an indication of how long the disruption will last and flights will only be cancelled on a flight-by-flight basis, as necessary.</p> <p>As of today, 10 February 2026, only flights for 7, 10, 14 and 15 February 2026 have been cancelled.</p>
Local businesses will lose money from expected visitors; can they seek compensation for loss in earning and possibly reputational damage?	<p>We are currently reviewing what assistance we can provide in these circumstances. SHG will reach out to affected businesses imminently. Those with appropriate business insurance should consult their providers.</p>
What does this mean for our tourism sector?	<p>We are working with all local businesses to understand the financial impact on them and to encourage positive messaging to their overseas clients.</p> <p>The impact of negative travel news is usually short-term, with confidence typically returning within around three months once issues are resolved.</p> <p>Travel agents operate on longer planning cycles and can be affected more quickly, which is why St Helena Tourism is leading proactive engagement to maintain confidence and strong working relationships.</p>
What will the airport staff be doing while the airport is non-operational?	<p>Airport staff will continue carrying out their responsibilities, including readiness for medical evacuation and charter flights, in line with Category 4 status. In addition, they will maintain oversight and servicing of airport equipment to ensure operational readiness.</p>
Will my flight be refunded?	<p>This is between the airline, the customer, and the insurer and will depend on whether you travel at a future date.</p>
Why is SHG taking the lead on this? Isn't this an operational matter for the Airport?	<p>. In keeping with the island's emergency planning processes and procedures, SHG has assumed the lead role to coordinate the overall response. The Airport continues to focus on the operational work needed to restore services safely, while SHG provides whole-of-government oversight and coordination.</p>

Hands up all those who like messaging online with a Chat Bot? No one? Thought so. I only do it when I really have to. Only on one or two occasions, when needing to contact a UK bank or as happened last Friday when I needed to get a delivery of car parts diverted from OR Tambo and Airlink to Cape Town and Zedcore.

I got on the DHL website and clicked on the 'Contact Us' button. DHL are better than most. It is so obvious that most online suppliers will do anything rather than talk directly to you. Customer service has gone downhill in every direction. Often there is no email, no phone number but always a Chat Bot in the bottom right corner. I wasn't going to spend a fortune phoning so I used Chat Bot to get, hopefully, a more immediate reply than email.

It was very urgent. On that Friday my son took the two boxes to DHL and got them dispatched. That was at about 1pm. An hour later SHG emails a press release telling us the airport is closed until further notice. Who knows when any airfreight will arrive now. It will all be backed up at OR Tambo. With the weight restrictions on planes and the priorities putting my spare parts at priority 5, I expected the worst. Get on to DHL get the consignment diverted to Cape Town and delivered to Zedcore by today. It has to be today because today is the deadline for cargo arriving on the Karoline in March.

I took a deep breath and clicked on Chat Bot. Knowing I would eventually be transferred to a human I gave all the details right at the start so the human will be up to speed straightaway – I hoped.

ME - Since dispatch at DHL Northampton it's announced St Helena airport is closed until further notice. I need to arrange for consignment to go Cape Town St Helena by ship using my usual Cape Town freight forwarder

BOT - Before I transfer you, could you please provide your full name?

ME – Did that

BOT - Please choose a method to verify your identity before we connect you with a live advisor.

ME – Did that

BOT - Thank you for waiting, we will connect you to one of our Advisors shortly.

You are now being transferred to customer service ...

Khalil entered the conversation

KHALIL - Good evening Vince, How can I help you today?

ME – I Repeated the message I started with

KHALIL - Before I can further assist I will need you to pass security.

For security can you confirm your address and phone number, please?

ME - I am the receiver of the consignment in St Helena. My son in UK dispatched this morning in Northampton His address, - mobile number

KHALIL - Thank you for the information, if you need to re-direct the shipment a request will need to be made by the sender in the UK by completing a letter of authority form.

Letter_Of_Authority_LOA.docx sent.

Please request that they complete the following form and send it over to uk.tracing@dhl.com

ME - Have you sent my son the LOA.docx?

KHALIL - I do not have your son's email address. If you can forward it over to them, it'll speed up the process.

ME - I have succeeded in downloading and saving the docx. Thank you

KHALIL - No problem, is there anything else I can help you with today?

ME - OK so far - over and out

That was slow and laborious but I had my foot on the process ladder. I completed my bit of the Letter of Authority and emailed it to my son for him to complete his bit and send it to DHL tracing. That was done in a jiffy.

DHL Express is not so express at weekends. On Monday morning a DHL email informed someone had been allocated the job of changing my delivery details.

On Wednesday morning The DHL tracker logged my two boxes as arriving at the Cape Town DHL Sort Centre at 6am local time. All that is left is to deliver them to Zedcore on or before today.

On Thursday morning, that's yesterday, and my two boxes need to be with Zedcore today. It's a mystery why the very last link in the delivery is a problem. Zedcore have been contacted to see if they can phone the DHL Sort Centre in Cape Town and my son confirmed he will try to push things along from the UK end. I hardly need to mention this, but the DHL Chat Bot is worse than useless. The DHL website overflows with all kinds of information and links to find out more. But all this fancy technology is till way behind picking up the phone and talking to another human.

Have a happy Friday 13th.

Big Global Problem – Honey Watered Down with Rice and Corn Syrups

Can This be St Helena's Opportunity? Can Honey Mean Money?



Quality honey made only from the nectar of the Manuka tree

A good honey, with its own distinctive taste, is similar to wine and coffee. Local characteristics have a lot to do with the taste. In St Helena, Wrangham's coffee has a different but equally pleasant taste compared with Rosemary Gate. The international popularity and the premium price of New Zealand's Manuka honey is dependent upon the bees gathering nectar from Manuka trees.

Many people would happily talk (and drink) at length about their favourite malt whisky. But no, this is about honey.

Fraud and corruption are on a massive global scale in the honey trade. To either keep the price down or make a bigger profit syrups extracted from rice or corn are used to bulk up the volume on genuine honey. Badly diseased bees are often used. To contain infection the hives are sprayed with antibiotics. Traces of antibiotics are found in some honey. China is suspected most for adulteration of honey. Often, Chinese honey is mixed with sugar. At other times bees are fed sugar constantly so they don't waste time gathering nectar from flowers and blossom. There are examples of nectar being almost absent from a jar labelled honey because so much imitation taste has been added.

Apimondia is the widely respected among genuine beekeepers. There are awards at the biennial Apimondia Congress. At the Chile Congress 2023, rigorous testing for the honey competition meant 39% of entries were excluded, highlighting the issue of fraudulent or low-quality honey in global markets. At the Apimondia Congress 2025, due to high risks of fraud in the global supply chain, Apimondia removed honey judging from the World Beekeeping Awards at this event. It appears the tools used to combat this type of fraud have not been developed in the beekeepers and honey market. It will probably be a long time before the institutions are in a position to effectively combat the corruption.

In the meantime, with such appalling standards in the Apiarian world, is there an opportunity for St Helena to gain a foothold in the niche market for quality honeys? One advantage is St Helena bees are disease free. St Helena is well known in the apiarian world for the rare, isolated, and largely disease-free bee population due to strict biosecurity. A big disadvantage is a jar of St Helena honey on open sale locally is rarer than the bees themselves. In the absence of much else happening should we develop a long-term plan to increase honey production? Or should we first attempt to regain lost ground in banana or tomato production? Why not try doing all three at the same time?

Badge of Honour – Anthony & Doran Henry

The St Helena Badge of Honour has been officially presented to brothers Anthony 'Futcher' Henry and Doran Henry for their lifelong, exceptional service to the island's maritime environment and sea rescue.

Governor Nigel Phillips recently hosted a ceremony at Plantation House to formally present the Badge of Honour to Anthony and Doran. The awards were presented in the presence of close family and friends, recognising the brothers' lifelong dedication and exceptional contributions to the island's maritime sector and emergency services.



Decades of Maritime Mastery

The Henry brothers' expertise is rooted in a lifetime of experience on the Jamestown wharf. Learning their craft from an early age under the guidance of their father, 'Charlie Boar,' they developed an intimate knowledge of St Helena's coastal waters and fishing grounds.

This foundational skill set led to invaluable contributions to the island's maritime operations. For decades, both men were integral to the complex cargo and fuel tanker operations managed by Solomons. Their ability to, on occasion in the past, liaise directly with ship Captains and execute boat manoeuvring in rough seas was often the deciding factor in successful medivac transfer and successfully landing essential supplies for the island.

A Commitment to Sea Rescue

In addition to their professional duties, Anthony and Doran provided significant support to the island's search and rescue capabilities over several decades:

- **Voluntary Service:** Both brothers served as voluntary sea rescue members for over 40 years, predating the formalisation of the current Sea Rescue Service.
- **Emergency Response:** They were frequently called upon to respond to emergencies involving fishers on the rocks or individuals in distress in the water.
- **Technical Skill:** The brothers are widely recognised for their ability to manoeuvre vessels in close quarters and under adverse conditions to facilitate rescues and recoveries.
- **Formal Service:** Both were eventually recruited into the modern Sea Rescue Service, where they completed formal training before their eventual retirement.

Community Impact and Recognition

The brothers' service has previously been noted at the highest levels, having been recognised by HRH Princess Anne during her visit to St Helena in 2002.

In awarding the Badge of Honour, SHG acknowledges not only their technical bravery and past service but also their status as respected mentors within the maritime community. Their instincts and experience remain a vital part of the island's seafaring heritage.

SHG extends its warm congratulations to Anthony 'Futcher' and Doran Henry on receiving this well-deserved recognition.

Richards James Scans for Hazardous Cargo

In 2025, RJI invested in a new cargo x-ray scanner at significant cost. This went into full operation at the beginning of 2026 and we are now at the stage where the vast majority of freight forward personal effects consignments are being scanned. In the coming days, we will be in a position to scan all mixed goods packed by our customers.



In recent years it has become more and more difficult to ensure that customers hazardous goods are being declared to the shipping lines and packed correctly. This is because a growing number of people are just packing aerosols, lithium batteries, flammable liquids, lighters etc. and not declaring them on the paperwork.

The restrictions that the shipping lines impose on hazardous are becoming stricter and some shipping lines are now refusing to ship used lithium batteries due to numerous fires that have started because of the volatile nature of these batteries.

The cargo x-ray scanner, annual dangerous goods training, audits and advisor are a significant expense to us but it ensures that we are the safest and most responsible freight forwarder to the islands in the South Atlantic and our customers should be aware of this.

Please note that from the beginning for 2026, RJI are now x-ray scanning all personal effects consignments to ensure that there are no undeclared hazardous goods, used lithium batteries and other prohibited goods.

We have seen a rising number of personal effects goods arriving with us with undeclared hazardous products such as used mobile phones and other used lithium batteries, lighters, aerosols and flammable perfumes etc. This is extremely dangerous and has meant that we have had to invest heavily in equipment to detect these items before loading.

Shipping and Airlines are extremely strict on the transport of hazardous materials and the freight forwarder can be fined tens of thousands of pounds and have containers removed for sending undeclared hazardous. Some shipping lines are now refusing to ship used lithium batteries due to the risks involved.

The scanning and removal of undeclared hazardous items from consignments adds significant additional time to our processing system and we will be charging for this time. We may also refuse to ship a consignment if a large volume of undeclared hazardous goods is found.

Short Bits

Cuba Has the Fire Tenders but No Fuel

On Tuesday this week the Cuba government announced no fuel would be available at any of their airports. This will continue until at least 11th March. Air Canada suspended all air services immediately. Cuba is a popular destination for Canadians during the northern hemisphere winter. Other airlines are also suspending services or cutting back on flights. The fuel shortage is linked to longstanding U.S. sanctions, which restrict the island's ability to import and export energy products through conventional international markets. The confiscation of Venezuelan oil tankers by the Trump administration has also contributed to the worsening of the energy crisis in Cuba.

Connect Say Thank You

An announcement this week from Connect thanks everyone for reducing water usage. They say they have been able to meet demand for water consumption depleting the volume of water storage, "Your commitment and co-operation is greatly appreciated". It just shows how wrong we can be. Surely most of us thought the situation had eased because of all the rain.

Recognise This Airport? - Me Neither



This airport is very strange. Travel and Tour World think it's St Helena Airport, but it looks like nothing on earth, literally. Some of the world's media caught on that our airport is closed. TTW was one of them. Their report included the photo here but there was no photo caption labelling it St Helena airport.

What airport is it. Fake airport probably. It looks heavily photo-shopped. Using something called Google Lens didn't help. Instead it couldn't offer the true identity of the airport, if there is one.

But AI popped up (that's Artificial Ignorance) with an 'Overview' – it read.

AI Overview

The image shows the Saint Helena Airport (IATA: HLE, ICAO: FSH), an international airport located on the remote island of Saint Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean



Dear Chief Minister and Ministers,

You will be aware that the public and visitors are expressing great concern and disappointment on the closing of our airport, due to the three fire appliances not being serviceable.

The fact that our airport is a Category C and two fire appliances must be serviceable and ready at all times for airport activities, the concern of the public is how we got to be in this terrible situation. Our reputation has been severely damaged and likely to impact upon future Saints and Tourist planning to visit.

This incident has had a tremendous financial impact on those persons who had made travel arrangements. Persons are stuck in Joburg as well as St. Helena, the cost to them will be tremendous, flight, hotels, guest houses, leave from their jobs, the list goes on. Whereas some might be able to claim through insurance, this is not a quick fix, it will take time and trouble.

I will ask that you direct that an immediate full and proper investigation be carried out, not by airport personnel, but by an independent body appointed for this purpose to determine what went wrong, to include dates and times. Upon such initial investigation, it might be necessary to bring in additional specialist support, we owe this to the public, no cover up, but the true facts must be established.

I will ask that this matter be given the utmost urgent attention and the public be informed of the outcome.

I look forward to this matter being treated seriously.

Thanks

Derek Thomas

St.Helena Legislative Council MLC

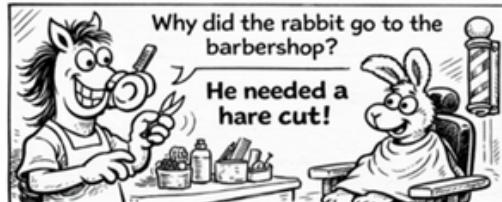
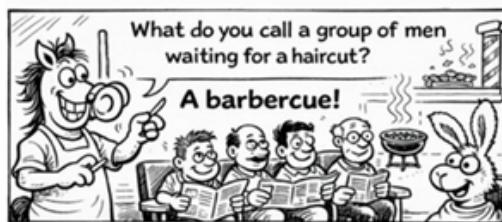
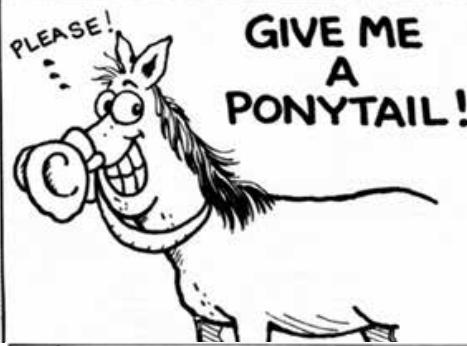


Week 1



Est. 2026 by
Helen Jones-Gentle

DRAW IT!



DOT-TO-DOT



Connect the dots to see the picture!

HAIR WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words?
(They go across, down and diagonal.)

R	R	O	U	Y	D	V	T	K	C	S	I
Y	E	M	G	Q	G	X	K	E	H	J	C
T	S	X	J	X	B	X	Q	A	E	V	O
T	U	C	L	C	Y	T	M	H	D	N	M
H	F	C	I	M	G	P	A	L	K	N	B
J	W	M	B	S	O	S	L	J	P	U	Q
P	T	A	S	O	S	S	H	X	P	V	R
C	U	T	Q	I	L	O	G	Z	M	K	H
Y	I	B	J	N	G	C	R	J	L	W	R
A	N	M	Q	G	C	K	J	S	O	R	M
S	T	Y	L	E	A	C	E	Q	A	T	W
O	O	B	B	O	M	U	G	Z	C	Q	M

WORDS TO FIND:

COMB
CUT
STYLE

SCISSORS
SHAMPOO

GIVE ME 5 RHYMES FOR HAIR...



WRITE US...

Jokes or PICTURES?
Send them to DUG at
Red Gate House Post
Box, Red Hill, St. Paul's.





Diocese of St Helena

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 15th February 2026 – 6th Sunday of the Year

8.00 a.m.	Eucharist	Cathedral
9.30 a.m.	Family Eucharist/Church Parade	Cathedral
3.30 p.m.	Eucharist	St Peter
	Wednesday 18th February – Ash Wednesday	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Ashes	Cathedral

The Parish of St James

Sunday 15th February 2026 – 6th Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Wednesday 18th February – Ash Wednesday	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Ashes	St James
	Thursday 19th February	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John

Sunday 18th February 2026 – 6th Sunday of the Year

11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Wednesday 18th February – Ash Wednesday	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Ashes	St Mark

Hey Kids!



Come and join Adventure Kids for some Fun & Games, Arts and Craft, Songs & loads of stories to be told.

WHERE: Baptist School Hall/James
Town
WHO: Age 4-11yrs old
WHEN: 14/02/26
TIME: 10:00-11:30am

Refreshments will be served.

BAHA'I FAITH HE IS THE GLORY OF GLORIES



O MAN OF TWO VISIONS

Close one eye and open the other. Close one to the world and all that is therein, and open the other to the hallowed beauty of the Beloved.

O MY CHILDREN

I fear lest, bereft of the melody of the dove of heaven, ye will sink back to the shades of utter loss, and, never having gazed upon the beauty of the rose, return to water and clay.

O FRIENDS

Abandon not the everlasting beauty for a beauty that must die, and set not your affections on this mortal world of dust.

O ESSENCE OF NEGLIGENCE

Myriads of mystic tongues find utterance in one speech, and myriads of hidden mysteries are revealed in a single melody; yet, alas, there is no ear to hear, nor heart to understand.

*Please phone enquiries to
Delia or Cliff Huxtable 24342*

Back Massage Foot Massage Hydrotherapy

Sunday 22nd February 2026 @ 3pm

SDA Church, Jamestown

We Hope To See You There

Festival of Walking Walk of the Week - Lot's Wife Ponds



Date: Sunday, 15 February 2026

Start Time: 08:30

Meeting Point: Sandy Bay Community Centre, then car share to Sandy Bay Beach.

Google Location: -15.97381, -5.70787

Duration: approx 5 hours

Walk grade: Fairly Strenuous | 7 - 8

Lot's Wife's Ponds is a coastal walk offering stunning views with fascinating birdlife. Take a refreshing swim in the natural pools before the walk back (bring swimming gear).

Note: This is a hike for fit walkers as there are some narrow sections on the path and cliffside walking. The walk will be led by local walking guides, Tom Wortley and Louis Youde.

Remember to wear sensible walking shoes, sunscreen and bring a minimum of 2L of water.

Please contact the Tourist Office to register for the walk and let us know if you would like to offer car share from the Sandy Bay Community Centre to Sandy Bay Beach and return.

Date	Upcoming Walks
Sunday, 7 March 2026	Sugar Loaf - Banks - Ruperts - Jamestown

Receive email updates of the 'Walk of the Week' email dianne.venning@sainthelena.gov.sh or the Tourist Office T: 22158



**St Helena
Government**



SAFETY, SECURITY, AND HOME AFFAIRS

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT Updates on Road Closure Programme

To ensure the successful completion of the Roads Slurry Programme, preparation and cleaning work is set to begin on the final phase of the project.

Closure Details

In addition to the ongoing daily closures between Longwood Gate and Hutt's Gate, new daily road closures will be implemented as follows:

Location:

Between the Briars, Side Path, Constitution Road junction and Button Up Corner (Heart Shaped Viewpoint bus shelter)

Time: 09:00 to 15:00 Mondays - Fridays

Duration: Monday, 16 February – Tuesday, 31 March 2026

Work Schedule

The project will be completed in two distinct stages:

Preparation Phase: 16 February – 28 February (Cleaning and repairs)

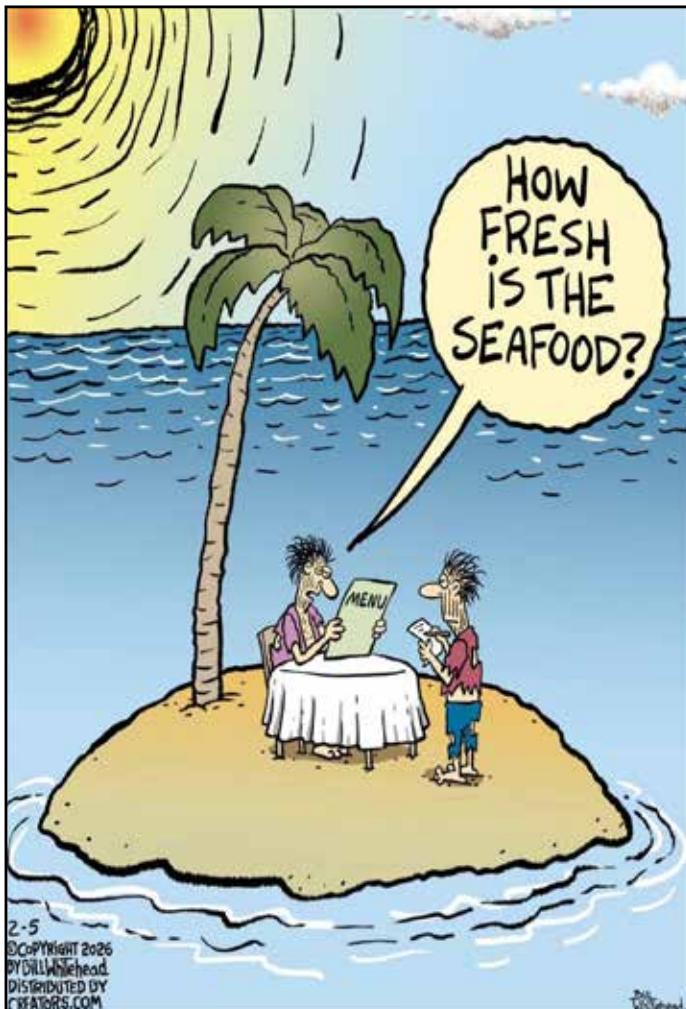
Slurry Operations: 2 March – 31 March 2026

Access for Residents

Residents living within the affected stretch are kindly asked to contact the Roads Supervisory Staff at 23640 to coordinate any essential travel during closure hours.

Appropriate signage will be displayed throughout the area. We request the public's full cooperation to help us complete these works safely and on schedule.

We thank you for your patience and apologise for any inconvenience caused.



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INVITATION TO TENDER

Renovation of Alarm Forest Police Post & Red Gate House Roof

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

ED23-2025/26 – Renovation of Alarm Forest Police Post
ED24-2025/26 – Red Gate House Roof

A site visit to view the works will take place on Wednesday, 18 February 2026, at 09:00, meeting at the Police Post, Alarm Forest and at 11:00, meeting at Red Gate House, Red Hill, St Pauls.

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, on telephone no: 25932 or via email tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh .

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Wednesday, 25 February 2026, clearly marked with the tender number detailed above.

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

'Restoring a globally significant Cloud Forest' News from the St Helena Cloud Forest Project



Welcome to the first 'news bite' from the St Helena Cloud Forest Project for 2026!

Today, we update you on the support from our partners at Kew Gardens and the crucial research underway for the future of one of our most iconic endemic cloud forest species— The She Cabbage, *Lachanodes arborea*

One of the biggest challenges in conserving this unique species, which is extinct in the wild, is its unpredictable and low seed production, making long-term seed storage a vital strategy for its survival. However, storing its seeds is not simple; early trials suggest they may be recalcitrant, meaning they cannot withstand conventional drying methods without losing viability!

To investigate, the Millennium Seed Bank conducted a trial with 100 seeds sent from St Helena, testing whether standard seed banking techniques could work or if specialised methods are needed. While results so far are inconclusive, Kew reports that seedlings from this first trial are now thriving in the glasshouse the Millennium Seed Bank. Once mature, they'll help us learn more about seed collection, storage and long-term preservation.

Kew's work is helping to ensure the survival of one of St Helena's most iconic species, all while highlighting the importance of research in global plant conservation!



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

Scan the QR Codes below for quick access to:

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter/X](#)



SOCIAL MEDIA

ADDICTION & ITS EFFECTS

What is it?

Also known as 'Problematic social media use' (PSMU), social media addiction is being overly concerned with social media, driven by the strong urge to log on to, or use social media, and devoting so much time and effort to it, that it impacts your daily life and well-being. It can affect your mental health, sleep patterns, relationships, your studies, even your work/career.

Effects

Researchers found the negative effects of excessive social media use include:

MENTAL HEALTH STRUGGLES: High correlation with anxiety, depression, increased stress, and suicidal thoughts. This can be brought on by cyberbullying, which happens often on social media platforms.

ADDICTION & BEHAVIOURAL ISSUES: Symptoms similar to drug addiction, including mood swings, paranoia, and withdrawal symptoms such as being irritable whilst away from social media.

SLEEP DISRUPTION: Reduced sleep quality, shorter duration of sleep, and difficulty sleeping at all.

COGNITIVE & SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT: Reduced attention span, potential ADHD-like symptoms, and diminished in-person social interaction.

FEELINGS OF LONELINESS: One study found that high usage of Facebook, Snapchat, and Instagram increases feelings of loneliness and isolation.

NEGATIVE COMPARISONS: This leads to poor body image, low self-esteem, and the "fear of missing out" (FOMO).

The severity of these effects depends on the amount of time spent and frequency of use, with young people being particularly vulnerable.



Overcoming It

Overcoming social media addiction is crucial to prevent serious mental health issues like anxiety and depression, improve sleep, boost productivity, and foster real-world relationships. Excessive use disrupts daily life, and can cause self-esteem issues, making it essential to manage usage for better emotional and psychological well-being.

Tips for Everyone

SET APP SCREEN TIME LIMITS
Use 'Digital Wellbeing' settings on your phone to limit social media app use to between 30 mins to 2 hrs per day, to maintain good mental health. Exceeding 2 hours on social media per day, research says, increases the risks of anxiety, depression, and social isolation.

SET "DIGITAL DETOX" TIMES
Set specific times of the day to be completely offline, for example, at least one hour before bedtime, during mealtimes, or by designating "screen-free zones" in the home e.g. bedrooms. Also ensure app notifications are switched off.

MAINTAIN 'OFFLINE' RELATIONS
Maintain in-person relationships and hobbies, like sports, music, or art, to reduce reliance on digital platforms for social fulfilment.

Tips for Parents

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS
Parents/guardians should use parental control apps such as 'Google Family Link' or 'Qustodio', or devices with built-in parental controls e.g. TP-Link Deco Wi-Fi Router, to set screen time limits on your children's devices, and block apps they shouldn't use.

TALK WITH YOUR CHILDREN
Have open, ongoing discussions about the negative effects of social media, and the importance of taking breaks and limiting screen time for their mental health and wellbeing.



LET'S MAKE 2026 THE YEAR YOU MEET YOUR SAVINGS GOALS AND SUPPORT YOUR FUTURE PLANS

A Premier Fixed Saver could help reach
your savings goals with money locked in for 1, 2 or 3 years:

Premier One Fixed Saver: One-Year Saver with **1.25% Interest**

Premier Two Fixed Saver: Two-Year Saver with **2% Interest**

Premier Three Fixed Saver: Three-Year Saver with **2.5% Interest**

Earn interest on your savings and make your money go
further with the Bank of St Helena.



Visit our website or drop in to see us for more information.

Applications available to complete online.



www.sainthelenabank.com

info@sainthelenabank.com | (+290) 22390





JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING...

BENEFITS

- **Leave** – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- **Pension** – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- **Training and Development**
- **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

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

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

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

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

Administration Team Leader (£13,569 per annum)

The Administration Team Leader will contribute to service delivery by coordinating the daily operations of the Administration Assistants and Receptionists within the Administration Support Service, ensuring that all administrative tasks are performed efficiently and effectively to enable the Portfolios to operate smoothly. Located in the Central Support Service but mobile across the Portfolios, this role promotes efficiencies and assists the Senior Administration Team Leader in creating an effective administration service that adapts to the evolving requirements of a contemporary Public Service. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: [Sara-Kay Yon](mailto:sara-kay.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh) on Tel No. 22470 or Email: sara-kay.yon@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 18 February 2026

Shortlisting date: 23 February 2026

Interview date: 04 March 2026

Chief Nursing Officer (£24,503 per annum)

The Chief Nursing Officer is responsible for guaranteeing that all patients treated in the hospital and the community receive compassionate, high-quality care. This involves creating and executing strategies and action plans to maintain the quality of nursing and midwifery services. This position is crucial in achieving our broader vision of transforming St Helena into an excellent place to live, learn, work, visit, and invest. Heads of Service play a vital role in enhancing the overall financial stability of the Public Service and are accountable for ensuring value for money and return on investment within their respective Services and throughout the Public Service as a whole. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: [Tracy Poole-Nandy](mailto:tracy.poole-nandy@sainthelena.gov.sh) on Tel No. 22500 or Email: tracy.poole-nandy@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 February 2026

Shortlisting date: 27 February 2026

Interview date: 11 March 2026

Healthcare Assistant (£10,088 per annum)

The Health and Social Care Portfolio is looking to recruit a highly motivated individual with a caring and empathetic nature to support our Nursing team in providing direct patient care in a highly pressured working environment. The role involves assisting patients with basic daily tasks as washing, dressing and feeding, to ensure that patients' dignity, hygiene and comfort are always preserved. Beyond basic care, Health care assistants are tasked with monitoring vital signs, observing patients' behaviour and reporting any concerns to senior nursing staff. Good verbal and written communication is essential for the post. Shift work is expected which includes weekends and public holidays. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: [Erika Bowers](mailto:erika.bowers@sainthelena.gov.sh) on Tel No. 22500 or Email: erika.bowers@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 February 2026

Shortlisting date: 27 February 2026

Interview date: 11 March 2026

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

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



JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING...

BENEFITS

- **Leave** – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- **Pension** – 15% pension contribution by SHG into approved defined contribution pension scheme
- **Training and Development**
- **Paid sickness absence**

HOW TO APPLY

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

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

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

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

Sea Rescue Crew (Auxiliary)

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

Coxswain

(£11,604.00 per annum)

18 years + and must be able to swim and pass a fitness test.

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

Crash Course Experience – 21 February 2026

Curious about what it's like to be part of Sea Rescue? Come along to our crash course at the Sea Rescue Base in Rupert's, running from 08:30 to 15:30.

You will step into the daily life of a crew member, taking part in:

- Routine vessel checks
- Chart work and navigation
- Knot tying
- Search pattern exercises
- Emergency drills on board (for those able to swim)

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

Ongoing Training

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

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

Enquiries: Leeroy Caswell or Mark Caswell on Tel no. 25215 or

Email: leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh

Email: mark.caswell@helanta.co.sh

Closing date: 27 February 2026

Swim Test: 03 March 2026

Shortlisting date: 05 March 2026

Interview date: 12 March 2026

The St Helena Public Service welcomes all applications from across our whole community, including our St Helenian diaspora wishing to return to St Helena. If you are a St Helenian currently living and working overseas, please contact us at recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh to discuss how we can support you. SHG positively accepts applications from all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will consider all applications on the basis of merit assessed against the role profile and person specification. All appointments are subject to the successful candidate providing satisfactory clearances, which include a medical check, vetting / DBS clearance and references. SHG reserves the right to have information provided on or with the application independently verified. Benefits are subject to change and may vary according to role.



Update on World's Most Remote Marathon

10 February 2026

To the St Helena Community,

We would like to provide an update regarding the World's Most Remote Marathon.

Due to the ongoing airport closure, which is currently expected to last until at least 20 February, it has become clear that our international participants will be unable to travel to the island in time for the 2026 event. As a result, we have made the difficult but necessary decision to postpone the marathon until March 2027.

We want to acknowledge the immense amount of work that has already been poured into this project. With meticulous planning and logistical support provided, the foundation is firmly in place. While we are disappointed by this delay, we view the coming year as an opportunity. We will continue to build on this momentum to ensure that when the starting pistol fires in 2027, it is an incredible and memorable event.

An event of this scale is only possible because of you. We are incredibly grateful to the local businesses and residents who have come forward to help create a truly authentic St Helena experience. Your hospitality and hard work are the heart of our tourism industry. Our breathtaking landscapes and challenging terrain remain ready and waiting. We have simply gained a little more time to make sure the rest of the world is ready for them too.

Thank you for your patience, your resilience, and community spirit that will make the event in 2027 a huge success.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Passaportis
Head of St Helena Tourism
St Helena Tourism

St Helena Tourism
The Canister | Jamestown | St Helena



PUBLIC NOTICE – WATER CONSERVATION

Over the past week, the people of St Helena have once again shown what can be achieved when we work together. Thanks to everyone's efforts to reduce water usage, we have been able to meet demand without placing undue strain on our limited reserves.

Every drop saved makes a real difference, helping to stretch our stored supplies further. While this progress is encouraging, it remains vital that we all continue to conserve as much water as possible in the weeks and months ahead.

Your commitment and cooperation are greatly appreciated. By keeping up these good habits, we can protect our island's resources and ensure water security for our community.

06 February 2026



We are seeking interest for the following positions – Customer service assistants, Supervisors & Chefs to work within our retail and leisure establishments at MPC, Falkland Islands.

Applicants should have excellent customer service skills, be reliable and trustworthy, able to use their own initiative, be flexible and willing to learn, and of sober habits. Full on-job training will be given.

For further information please contact Mr Dylan Hall, Operations Manager on email dylanhall@naafi.co.uk

The “Let’s Dance” group would like to thank all who attended and donated prizes for the Christmas fundraising event on Wednesday, 10 December 2025. A total of £349.00 was raised from the raffle and £87.00 was received in donations on the night. After expenses, a total of £300.00 was donated to the Half Tree Hollow Community Centre.

Below are the raffle winners:

SHEET NO.	TICKET NO.	WINNER	ADDRESS	ITEM
5	2	Percy Thomas	Half Tree Hollow	Dinner for 2 at Mantis
1	3	Sandra George	Cow Path	TAD Fitness Gym Membership for a month
13	6	John Thompson	Alarm Forest	Coffee for 2 at the Coffee Shop
12	11	Mia Jory	Cow Path	Plantation House Tour for 2
1	15	Chelsea Lawrence	Half Tree Hollow	Manicure at Peaks Enterprise
16	15	Angela Peters	Guinea Grass	Boat Ride for 4 on Seahorse
17	9	Cynthia Joy George	Half Tree Hollow	Food Hamper
16	10	Brian Bennett	Half Tree Hollow	Photoshoot Creative Captures
12	20	Brenda Stevens	Alarm Hill	£20 Voucher Anne's Place
9	17	Angela Peters	Guinea Grass	Pedicure Peaks Enterprises
1	3	Sandra George	Cow Path	Voucher from Joshies

Coach Nadeem makes his first visit for 2026 to St Helena Cricket

Coach Nadeem (Nadeem Ahmed) arrived from Cape Town to work with St Helena Cricket as they prepare for their upcoming qualifiers in Ghana.

Whilst his primary focus will be on developing the national team who will be travelling to Ghana, he will also spend time with any player who wishes to have specialist coaching to develop their game. Coach will be available for this on Monday afternoons.

Coach Nadeem was last on island in September 2025 and on his first training session was impressed with how the team has progressed over the past five months. He commented "arriving back on the island it was really good to see the team in good spirits. After a discussion regarding the best way forward to achieve our common goal, we are now all on the same page as to how we wish to proceed in our training.

It was really good to see everybody in the squad at a high level of a fitness, which makes my job as a coach a lot easier as I now don't have to start from a position of zero. They have managed to maintain a high level of fitness over the past five months and now it makes my job easier to push them on from here and get them tournament ready. We have a clear strategy as how we wish to proceed, and now we will build our processes and develop the team bond that will make us a unified force."

Whilst on Island Nadeem will also be working with the emerging ladies cricket team and with St Helena's budding cricket coaches.



FROM THE COUCH

Contributed by Leigh & Louis



Premier League Results

Friday 6th	Leeds	3	1	Nott'm Forest
Saturday 7th	Man United	2	0	Tottenham
Saturday 7th	Arsenal	3	0	Sunderland
Saturday 7th	Bournemouth	1	1	Aston Villa
Saturday 7th	Burnley	0	2	West Ham
Saturday 7th	Fulham	1	2	Everton
Saturday 7th	Wolves	1	3	Chelsea
Saturday 7th	Newcastle	2	3	Brentford
Sunday 8th	Brighton	0	1	Crystal Palace
Sunday 8th	Liverpool	1	2	Man City
Tuesday 10th	Chelsea	2	2	Leeds
Tuesday 10th	Everton	1	2	Bournemouth
Tuesday 10th	Tottenham	1	2	Newcastle
Tuesday 10th	West Ham	1	1	Man United

Results from remaining matches of Matchweek 26 will be in next weeks Independent.



Match Report

Erling Haaland scored his first goal at Anfield to secure Manchester City a thrilling 2-1 comeback victory over Liverpool and boost their Premier League title hopes.

Arsenal opened up a nine-point lead at the summit on Saturday, but Man City cut that back down to six after Haaland kept his composure from the penalty spot.

Dominik Szoboszlai, who was sent off in the dying seconds, thought he had set Liverpool on their way to a win, as he beat a static Gianluigi Donnarumma with a stunning swerving free-kick.

However, Bernardo Silva slid in to volley Haaland's header past Alisson in the 84th minute before the Norwegian snatched all three points from 12 yards in the third minute of stoppage time.

Rayan Cherki then saw a late goal chalked off in a frantic ending, but Man City still move outright second after the win, while Liverpool remain sixth, five points behind Manchester United in fourth.



Man of the Match



Matches for Match Week 27 will be played on 21st, 22nd and 23rd February and will be printed in next

ST HELENA GOLF REPORT

Contributed by St Helena Golf Club

Gerald George Defends Title at 3-Club Leon Crowie Memorial

The St Helena Golf Club held the 3-Club Leon Crowie Memorial Challenge on Sunday, 8 February 2026, in warm and sunny conditions, with a strong field of 22 players competing in the special-format event.

The competition honours the memory of Leon Crowie, widely regarded as one of the greatest golfers St Helena has ever produced, who sadly passed away on the golf course on 4 February 2024. The memorial challenge celebrates his legacy, love for the game, and lasting contribution to local golf.

For the second consecutive year, Gerald George claimed the title, posting an outstanding net score of 63 to secure Overall Winner. Having also won the inaugural event last year, George stands as the undisputed champion of the Memorial Challenge since its establishment. Larry Legg finished Runner-Up with a net 68 and also recorded the Lowest Gross Score of the day, while Jeffrey Stevens took third place with a net 71 after a closely contested round.

Prizes were awarded to the top three finishers, along with a recognition award for Most Played Golf won by Annette Delacourt, highlighting consistent participation and commitment to club competitions. There was no winner in the Two Ball Pool.



Winner for the second year in a row Gerald George



Runner up Larry Legg



3rd Prize winner Foxy

The event was generously sponsored by the Leon Crowie family, led by Mrs Crowie. The club extends its sincere appreciation for their continued support, including the sponsorship of drinks for members, which contributed to a fitting and well-supported memorial occasion.



Happy Swinging SHGC



The next club competition will be held on **Sunday, 15 February**, in a **Greensome** format.

Players may choose their partners, with 3/8 of the combined handicap applied.

Registration will close on Saturday, 14 February 2026.

Home & Land For Sale

For Sale by Owner as a whole or in 2 lots.

Upper lot

A large partly finished detached bungalow on freehold land with amazing views of both ocean & mountain

Lower lot

A plot of freehold land suitable for building or investment with own access via lane at the bottom of the plot

Visualised impression below show the home's full potential as a bright, welcoming residence blending comfort with natural beauty.

For inquiries, contact: shpropertysales@gmail.com

**OFFERS INVITED IN THE REGION OF £85,000 FOR THE WHOLE OR
MAY SELL SEPARATELY @ £67,500 UPPER & £17,500 LOWER**



propertyfinder.sh/properties/deadwood-property-sale/



shpropertysales@gmail.com

Highlights

- Freehold Title, Fast Closing
- Excellent Investment
- Fiber Internet Available On Island
- Quiet, Private Location
- Located in DeadWood Near LongWood Shops, Bus etc
- Not Far to the Capital Jamestown
- Outdoor Space & Garden
- Almost All Round Views of Mountains & Ocean

Viewing

YouTube Channel (Video, Slideshow, Virtual Viewing):

<http://shorturl.at/itKuc>

360° Self-Directed Walkaround:

<http://shorturl.at/YtMh8>

MACS SHIPPING SCHEDULE UPDATE



WHATEVER
YOU NEED
TO SHIP

	BLUE MASTER II 261202	GOLDEN KAROO 261203	GREY FOX 261206
Immingham	20-Dec	17-Jan	21-Feb
	KAROLINE 261701	KAROLINE 261702	KAROLINE 261703
Cape Town	31-Jan	02-Mar	02-Apr
Rupert's Bay	09-Feb	10-Mar	10-Apr
Ascension Island		15-Mar	
	KAROLINE 261801	KAROLINE 261802	KAROLINE 261803
Cape Town	25-Feb	31-Mar	23-Apr

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



Moving your cargo globally with flexibility and care.



Get in touch with us: macship.com

CPT +27 21 405 3400 | sthelena.cpt@macship.com



Happy Valentines Day 2026

