



INDEPENDENT

PRICE: £1

Email: independent@helanta.co.sh

VOLUME XXI, ISSUE 25, 19th JUNE 2026

Modernising Telecoms Can Ascension Show Us the Way?



"Omnitouch delivers and manages all core network components, allowing the contracting government or operator to focus on customer-facing services rather than infrastructure." See Pages 2 - 5...

Raphael Did Not Row His Boat Ashore

See Page 9...



Plenty of Father's Day Pics



**New
Governor
in
September**
See Page 6...

GIANT KILLERS

World Cup Has SIX So Far
See Page 29...

LANDING SOON



Chris Gare of **OpenFalklands** 

What Ascension's Experience Tells Us About the Falklands' Choice



I wrote about the major change in telecommunications on Ascension Island back in January 2026 – Ascension's Telecoms Turning Point and What It May Signal for the Falklands. Consider this an update with the benefit of several more months of evidence.

When the Ascension Island Government (AIG) announced in December 2025 that it had selected Omnitouch Network Services to replace Sure South Atlantic as its telecommunications provider, many would have noted the parallel with the Falklands. Here was a remote British Overseas Territory, with a population under a thousand, that had just demonstrated something previously considered unlikely: a credible alternative to Sure actually exists.

The Ascension experience deserves a closer look; not as a template to be copied, but as a real-world case study from which the Falkland Islands can draw useful lessons, both positive and cautionary.

What happened on Ascension?

Sure South Atlantic exited Ascension on 28 February 2026, and Ascension Island Mobile, the new entity set up by the AIG and built on Omnitouch's infrastructure, launched the following day. By all accounts, the new network's coverage is already superior to Sure's, reaching areas of the island that previously had no signal.

Fixed-line services were not immediately available. Some residents initially found they could no longer use their existing numbers for two-factor authentication with international banking services, while international roaming arrangements also took time to establish.

The AIG acknowledged the likelihood of disruption from the outset, which was the right approach. But the experience illustrates that even when an alternative provider is willing and capable, transitions in small, remote markets carry real short-term risk.

We should also remember that if Starlink's arrival made Ascension commercially unviable for Sure, the same dynamic is already playing out in the Falklands at a larger scale.

Why did Sure leave Ascension?

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of the Ascension story is not the arrival of Omnitouch but the departure of Sure South Atlantic itself.

Sure had operated telecommunications services on Ascension for many years. Yet in August 2025, it gave notice of its intention to withdraw, bringing an end to its involvement just seven months later.

Although the company has not published a detailed explanation, it was widely understood that market economics had changed significantly following Starlink's arrival. As residents increasingly



adopted Starlink for broadband, Sure faced the prospect of retaining responsibility for maintaining the island's telecommunications infrastructure while receiving much lower revenues from traditional services.

Ascension is an extremely small market, with fewer than 1,000 residents. In such an environment, the loss of broadband customers can have a disproportionate effect on the overall viability of the business. Maintaining and modernising networks in a remote location is expensive, and the remaining revenues may simply no longer justify the investment required. At least, that is what Sure appears to have concluded.

It is also notable that the replacement arrangement adopted by the Ascension Island Government differed from the traditional model. Under the new structure, infrastructure costs were shared between the government and Omnitouch, with support from the FCDO and RAF logistics. Rather than simply replacing Sure with another vertically integrated operator, the commercial structure itself changed, reducing the financial risk borne by the network provider and giving AIG greater control over its future.

Whatever the precise reasons, the Ascension experience demonstrates that the presence of an incumbent operator cannot be taken for granted. Telecommunications providers make commercial decisions, and those decisions do not always align with the long-term interests of the communities they serve.

For the Falklands, the lesson may be that resilience comes not from assuming that a single operator will always remain, but from ensuring credible alternatives and transition plans are in place long before they are needed.



An Unanswered Question

One aspect of the Ascension story has not, to my knowledge, been publicly addressed. Sure's departure was widely understood to result from the collapse of its broadband revenue following Starlink's approval; the existing vertically-integrated commercial model simply no longer worked for a market of Ascension's size. Yet when Omnitouch was brought in, AIG adopted a fundamentally different financial structure, with infrastructure costs shared among the government, Omnitouch, the FCDO, and the RAF.

This raises an obvious question. If a restructured, cost-shared model made the economics work for a new entrant, why was a similar arrangement not explored with Sure as an alternative to its departure? Sure had years of local knowledge, established infrastructure and an existing presence on the island.

There may be good reasons. Perhaps such an approach was offered and declined. Perhaps AIG concluded that the issues went beyond financial structure alone. Or perhaps, once notice had been given, the opportunity was taken to bring in a different operator with more modern technology, with the VoLTE-based network discussed below providing a clear example of the improvements that resulted.

Whatever the explanation, the question is relevant to the Falklands. If a new financial model with a new operator delivered a better outcome for Ascension than adapting the existing arrangement with the incumbent, that is a real-world data point worth weighing carefully as FIG



considers its choice between reform and renewal.

Who is Omnitouch?

Omnitouch is an Australian company that specialises in designing, building, and operating cellular networks in remote and geographically challenging environments. Its model, Mobile Network as a Service (MNaaS), is a turnkey approach in which **Omnitouch delivers and manages all core network components, allowing the contracting government or operator to focus on customer-facing services rather than infrastructure.** Its track record includes work in Alaska, Central America, the Pacific and Indian Ocean Islands, and notably Norfolk Island in the Pacific, where it established a modern 4G network for a community of around 2,000 people, a scale not entirely dissimilar to Stanley.

AIM's network features

Ascension Island Mobile's 4G LTE network has been designed to provide comprehensive coverage across the island, including all populated areas and frequently used roads, and to extend several kilometres offshore.

It is also a thoroughly modern network, supporting Voice over LTE (VoLTE), which enables voice calls to be carried directly over the 4G network. This is particularly interesting from a Falklands perspective. In the Falklands, voice calls are still carried over the legacy 2G network, with the 4G network used solely for data services. In 2026, reliance on 2G for voice services has become something of an anomaly internationally, highlighting how modernisation of the Falklands mobile network could have been achieved much earlier with an appropriate investment, but wasn't.

What could this mean for the Falklands?

The Falkland Islands are materially different from Ascension. The population is larger, economic activity is more diverse, and the infrastructure requirements are considerably more complex, spanning Stanley, the Camp, Mount Pleasant, and a dispersed rural population. A like-for-like comparison is not straightforward.

That said, several lessons from Ascension are directly relevant.

First, specialist operators of this kind do exist and are willing to enter small, remote markets. The common view that "there is no realistic alternative to Sure" is weaker than it once was. Omnitouch is not the only such company; others, including those active in comparable island environments, have demonstrated similar capabilities. It seems reasonable to assume that many such operators responded to Cambridge Management Consulting and FIG's PME programme in the latter half of 2025.

Second, the Ascension experience confirms that transitions require time. The compressed handover on Ascension created avoidable difficulties. For the Falklands, this reinforces the argument that planning needs to begin well in advance of December 2027, not in response to it.

Third, government posture matters enormously. The AIG was explicit about managing risk, communicating openly with residents, and acknowledging that disruption was possible. That transparency, even where it was uncomfortable, built public understanding. FIG would do well to adopt a similar approach as it considers the post-2027 landscape.

Fourth, funding is a real question. The Ascension transition was funded by the FCDO. The Falklands operates with greater financial autonomy, which means that any comparable



transition, or indeed any major infrastructure investment, would need to be funded from a constrained public budget or secured through other means. This is not a reason to avoid planning, but it is a reason to start early.

A model worth watching

The Omnitouch model on Ascension is still in its early stages. Fixed-line and broadband services continue to develop, and it will take time to assess their longer-term performance. OpenFalklands will continue to monitor developments.

For the Falklands, the most valuable takeaway from Ascension is not that the same solution should be replicated, but that a post-monopoly telecommunications landscape is no longer a theoretical proposition. It is already happening under near-identical geographic and regulatory conditions in comparable British Overseas Territory jurisdictions elsewhere in the South Atlantic. The question for FIG and MLAs is whether to watch that experiment unfold from a distance, or to use it as one input into a deliberate, well-planned approach to the Falklands' own telecommunications future.

Chris Gare, OpenFalklands, June 2026, copyright OpenFalklands



The contents of this post are based on information available in the public domain and any opinions stated herein are those of the author alone unless otherwise stated. I always welcome any corrections if I get things wrong so please contact me if that is the case.

<https://www.openfalklands.com/when-the-incumbent-leaves-what-ascensions-experience-tells-us-about-the-falklands-choice/>

Thank you Chris Gare - all we need now is someone to explain to all of us what is happening with modernising St Helena telecoms – what the aim is, how it is to be finally completed and why the chosen choices were made.



"Evelyn Isaac and family would like to express heartfelt thanks and appreciation, to all the family and friends for sharing her special 100th birthday on the 8th June 2026, and for the many beautiful memories made on Evelyn's special occasion.

Thank you all with love and God's blessings."

New Governor for St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha

The UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office has announced the selection of Ms Belinda Lewis as the next Governor of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, succeeding His Excellency Mr Nigel Phillips CBE, who will be retiring from the Diplomatic Service.



Belinda Lewis was raised in Newcastle upon Tyne, and studied History at Girton College, Cambridge. She later earned a Master's degree in Global Diplomacy from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Her career began in banking before she transitioned to the Civil Service in 2003. Since then, she has built an impressive record across a wide range of government roles. Her experience includes positions at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the Ministry of Justice, where she undertook a secondment to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as well as overseas assignments in Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan and, most recently, as His Majesty's Ambassador to Kuwait.

Ms Lewis said: "It is an honour to have been selected to serve the communities of St Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha as Governor. My family and I are hugely looking forward to calling beautiful St Helena our home, and I will be very keen to visit Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha – both remarkable environments in their own right."

Belinda Lewis is due to take office during September 2026.

Office of the Administrator
17 June 2026

Births (May '26)

Arianna Tina Marie Moyce - 11/05/2026
Elliah Oshay Coleman - 27/05/2026
Mohamed Karim Salah Abouelghar - 29/05/2026

Deaths (May '26)

Elizabeth June Buckley (Female, 72) - 11/05/2026
Collin Harold Williams (Male, 69) - 14/05/2026
Michael John Henry (Male, 58) - 31/05/2026



Happy Father's Day



A son's first hero,
a daughter's first love.

HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY
DO ALL THE
DADS,
STEP DADS,
GRAND DADS

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY
To all Dads



FATHER'S
DAY 2026
HONORING DAD'S LOVE



Raphael Garcia Starts an Adventure After Four Years of Planning

Raphael Garcia (34) set off on a journey from Lüderitz, Namibia, to Salvador, Brazil, on 8 April 2026, rowing solo across the Atlantic Ocean in his ocean rowing boat, Sater.

He said, "I started planning in 2022 and worked on it almost every day. I initially thought it would take a year, but it took four." Garcia arrived in Namibia in March, after shipping his boat from New Zealand, a process that took three months. The distance between Lüderitz and Salvador is between 3,100 to 3,150 nautical miles. So far, Raphael has rowed about 1,200 nautical miles.



"My goal is to reach Brazil in about 100 days. Once I'm out there, there's no stopping. I'll pass St Helena Island, but I won't stop until I reach Salvador, at Todos os Santos," he said before departure.

Raphael passed St Helena between Monday and Wednesday this week, about 12 miles north of the Island. He added, "I plan to row between eight and 12 hours a day, making as much

progress as possible and adjusting my course as winds and currents shift. I have food for about 140 days, so I should be covered. Most of it is dehydrated, powder-based meals, along with some tuna and salmon. I'll also fish if needed. The boat is self-steering and self-draining. There's a dedicated rowing area, while the rest of the boat is used for storage and a small cabin where I sleep or shelter during storms.

He emphasised "The boat must be able to drain water and right itself after capsizing. In rough seas, it can flip, so it needs enough weight at the bottom to return upright on its own, whether I'm inside or outside." The vessel is also fitted with a desalination system. "At the press of a button, it converts seawater into drinking water. I also have a manual backup and emergency reserves in case of failure,"

Raphael Garcia's route passing St Helena.

His progress is at roughly 0.5 to 1.5 knots per hour. It has taken Raphael 73 days to pass St Helena after leaving Lüderitz on 8th April. Originally from São Paulo, Brazil, Garcia is now based in New Zealand.



 **TIP OF THE WEEK**



AIR-DRY CLOTHES
INSTEAD OF
USING A
TUMBLE DRYER.



AIR-DRYING
SAVES ENERGY,
KEEPS CLOTHES
IN GREAT SHAPE,
AND HELPS
REDUCE YOUR
ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT.


**SAVE ENERGY,
SAVE MONEY,
AND CARE FOR
THE PLANET!**

Small changes. BIG IMPACT. 



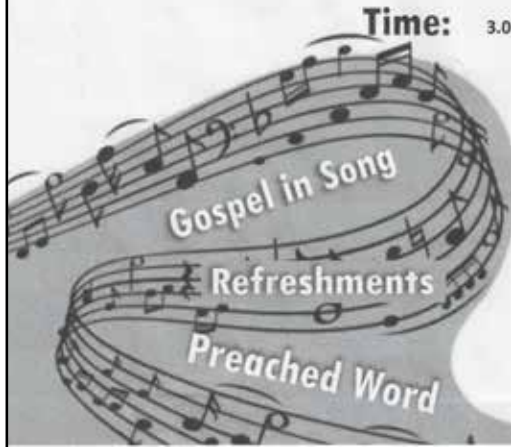
**Baptist Church
Gospel Outreach**



sing!
When: Sunday
21st June 2026

Where: Jamestown
Community Centre

Time: 3.00 pm



sing!

Diocese of St Helena

The Parish of St Paul's

Sunday 21st June 2026 - 12th 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

The Parish of St James

Sunday 21st June 2026 - 12th Sunday of the Year

9.30 a.m.	Eucharist	St James
	Wednesday 24th June	
6.30 p.m.	Growing the Church	St James Vicarage
	Thursday 25th June	
7.00 p.m.	Eucharist with Healing	St John

The Parish of St Matthew

Sunday 21st June 2026 - 12th Sunday of the Year

11.15 a.m.	Eucharist	St Mark
	Tuesday 23rd June	
7.00 p.m.	Mission Worship and Praise	St Mark



VACANCY



GIS Surveyor/Technician

Connect Saint Helena Ltd has two vacancies for GIS Surveyor/Technicians. The successful candidates will provide accurate survey data and geospatial analysis to support the planning, operation, and maintenance of utility infrastructure. Working across water supply, wastewater networks, and electrical systems, the role ensures reliable mapping and data integration that underpin engineering design, asset management, and service delivery.

EXPERIENCE & QUALITIES



- Practical Surveying Experience
- Experience of GIS and Surveying Software
- Geospatial Surveying or equivalent
- Driving Licence, Class A

QUALIFICATIONS



- GCSE English and Maths at Grade C or above
- Intermediate Computer Skills

BENEFITS



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

For further information and a full Job Description please contact Michael Gutuza on +290 22255 or email Michael.Gutuza@connectonline.co.sh. Completed application forms can be handed into the Connect Saint Helena Ltd main office at Seales Corner, Jamestown or via email: Claire.B.Duncan@connectonline.co.sh by 9:00am on Monday, 29 June 2026. To be considered for this role please complete our application form, CV's will not be accepted.



www.connect.co.sh/vacancies.html



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



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



CONNECT SAINT HELENA LTD ANNOUNCES TWO EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Connect Saint Helena Ltd is pleased to announce that we are currently recruiting for two important positions that will help support the delivery of key infrastructure and renewable energy projects across the island:

- **Senior Renewable Energy Engineer**
- **Project Manager**

These roles form part of Connect Saint Helena's ongoing investment in the island's energy infrastructure and renewable energy transition. Successful candidates will play a key role in delivering projects that improve reliability, sustainability and long-term resilience of essential services for the St Helena community.

The Senior Renewable Energy Engineer will support the development and operation of renewable energy systems, helping to reduce the island's dependence on imported fuel and contributing to a more sustainable future.

The Project Manager will lead the planning and delivery of a range of strategic infrastructure projects, ensuring that investments are delivered safely, efficiently and to a high standard.

Connect Saint Helena is committed to attracting talented professionals who share our ambition to deliver excellent services and support the island's future development.

The recruitment process is now under way and both vacancies are currently advertised on: <https://join-sainthelena.com/about-connect-saint-helena-ltd/> **Closing date: 9 July 2026**

We encourage interested candidates to review the vacancy details and submit an application.

12 June 2026



ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

Plant Operator

Total package value up to £30,186 pa

(comprising salary up of up to £13,159.00 pa, plus food and utilities allowances, free housing and other benefits)

About the role

The Ascension Island Government is looking for a reliable and skilled Plant Operator to join our team, delivering essential services that support life on the island. This is a varied and hands-on role where you'll operate a wide range of heavy plant machinery to assist with a variety of tasks, while also contributing to essential stevedore and ship support duties.

What you'll do

As a Plant Operator, you'll operate and maintain a variety of plant machinery including wheeled loader (including JCB backhoe), forklift de-mountable lorry, bulldozer, road roller, cranes, tracked excavators, graders, lifting equipment, Merlo cement mixer and 6 tonne tipper truck. You'll prepare equipment for use, carry out basic servicing and minor repairs, and ensure machinery is used in a safe and effective manner. Your responsibilities will also include supporting construction and maintenance projects across the island, assisting with refuse disposal and burial services, and undertaking stevedore duties on a rotational basis, working 12-hour shifts that may include weekends. You'll be part of a team that plays a crucial role in keeping the island running smoothly.

What you'll bring

You'll have at least three years' experience operating and maintaining heavy plant machinery, with a valid clean driving licence covering classes A, B, C, D, and J. You'll be methodical, safety-conscious, and comfortable following verbal instructions with precision. Good hand-eye coordination, a strong sense of responsibility, and the ability to work well as part of a team are essential. You'll be physically fit, willing to work outdoors in all conditions, and committed to learning and adhering to AIG's health and safety standards. Above all, you'll bring a positive attitude and a willingness to contribute to the essential operations that support the island community.

What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of up to £13,159.00 pa (depending on experience and taxable on Ascension), the role attracts a two-year **accompanied** status contract and the following allowances and benefits:

- Rent free furnished accommodation worth £2,400 pa (taxable benefit)
- An Accompanied status food allowance of £7,800 pa accompanied, or Single status £3,900 pa
- An electricity allowance worth up to £3,625 pa
- A water allowance worth £3,202 pa accompanied, or £1,921 single status
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including assistance with the shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment
- 30 days' annual holiday (with an additional 9 days public holidays)
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free schooling for dependant children from 4 to 16 years.
- Free annual travel insurance
- Death in Service insurance

The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Basic Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical and Dental Clearance

Closing date: 06 July 2026 Interviews: from week commencing 13 July 2026 (via video call if off island)

Start date: As soon as possible.

For more information, a full job description, and to apply, visit: www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/. If you have any questions about the role, email: recruitment@ascension.gov.ac

Vacancy

Assistant BFI Manager



Salary for the post will commence at £16,596 per annum (£1,383 per month)

Solomon & Company (St Helena) Plc has a vacancy within the Bulk Fuel Installation for an Assistant BFI Manager.

As the Assistant Manager you will assist the Manager with the day to day running of the Bulk Fuel Installation, and to deputize for the Manager in their absence.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have proven experience working within bulk fuel storage, distribution and handling or similar environment, and related Health & Safety knowledge
- Be committed to the continuous improvement of Health & Safety performance, developing, and maintaining effective safety systems, and promoting a positive safety culture
- Have GCSE Maths & English or equivalent at Grade C or above and excellent ICT skills
- Have strong leadership skills and experience in developing and coaching a team
- Be able to undertake administrative duties including report writing and produce work with a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail.
- Have strong interpersonal & organisational skills and be able to communicate effectively on all levels.
- Be analytical with strong technical skills and the ability to confidently make decisions.
- Have the ability to multi task & work under pressure.
- Be in possession of a valid driver's licence in class C
- Be knowledgeable of general maintenance of fuel equipment and facilities
- Be flexible to work outside of normal working hours as and when required

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

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

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **25 June 2026**.

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

- ◆ Pension Contributions
- ◆ Staff Discounts

Vacancy

Safety & Compliance Officer



Salary for the post will range between £18,513.00 - £20,000.00 per annum;
depending on qualifications and experience

Job Outline:

Responsible for planning, implementing and overseeing all elements of safety and compliance, through Business Operating Unit Managers, in accordance with laws, regulations, standards and ethical practices as applicable to the Company in respect of environmental management and workplace health and safety.

Interested Persons Should:

- Have IOSH or similar Health & Safety Certification
- Have experience in a Health & Safety / Compliance role
- Ideally be knowledgeable of Food Safety practises
- Ideally have supervisory or experience in a management role
- Have grade C or above in English and Maths or equivalent
- Be computer literate in the use of Microsoft Applications
- Have excellent organisation, interpersonal & communication skills
- Be analytical and have a high degree of accuracy with attention to detail
- Be able to maintain total confidentiality within the Company

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

Paul Gasteen, Chief Operations Officer via  22380  paul.gasteen@solomons.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hradmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by **25 June 2026**.

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

- ◆ Pension Contributions
- ◆ Staff Discounts

Vacancy

Road Tanker Driver/Relief Watchkeeper



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

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

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

Interested Persons Should:

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

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

Mr Rico Yon, BFI Manager via [22332](tel:22332) or bfi@helanta.co.sh

Application forms may be collected from Solomons Main Office Reception, Jamestown or alternatively an electronic copy can be requested via hadmin@solomons.co.sh and completed forms should be returned to Anya Thomas, Human Resources Development Officer, Solomons Main Office, Jamestown by 02 July 2026.

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

◆ Pension Contributions

◆ Staff Discounts



Property for sale at Hutts Gate Contact 23163.

Plus a 6 metre container with building Materials and double glaze windows and doors on site .

The Chapel warden and Church group of St Helena & The Cross church

would like to thank everyone who took part in the moonlight walk held on Saturday the 30th May 2026. It was a very successful event and again was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The weather was favourable and the moon was just super bright to help us on the walk.

A big thank you to all who donated so generously towards this event. The donations along with the raffle and other activities on the night totalled £380.00. A special mention to Mrs Olive Bagley for donating the cake for the raffle which was won by Mrs Elsie Hughes. And thanks to all others who donated in any way possible. Your support was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to our DJ Colin Peters for keeping our walkers entertained on the arrival to the Community centre.

Thank you all once again and God Bless!

APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMISSION

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

1. **Application 2026/80:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Garage & Alterations to Existing Dwelling** on Parcel HTH1186, **Applicant:** Sasha Bargo
2. **Application 2026/81:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Bedroom & Laundry Room Extension** on Parcel FP0243, **Applicant:** Leslie C. Williams
3. **Application 2026/82:** FULL Planning Application for **Proposed Two-Bedroom Dwelling** on Parcel LWN0507, **Applicant:** Patricia Benjamin C/o Tayler Bennett
4. **Application 2026/83:** FULL Planning Application for **Change of Use from Use Class D1 to "House of Multiple Occupation" (Sui Generis) on the South Building at Former Longwood School** on Parcel LWS0022, **Applicant:** Head of Property, St Helena Government.

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 – 3 July 2026

Shane Williams, Acting Chief Planning Officer

INVITATION TO TENDER Fencing – St Helena Secondary School

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

CS-2059-SHG – Fencing at St Helena Secondary School

A site visit to view the works will take place on Wednesday, 24 June 2026, at 16:00, meeting at St Helena Secondary School.

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

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Friday, 03 July 2026, clearly marked "Tender CS-2059-SHG".

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

Blast From the Past



The Wharf in the present day is somewhat unrecognisable compared to this **Blast From the Past** image. Though certain structures and Thompsons Crane's name remain (say that 3 times fast), the shape and the cranes (of course) has been altered since then.

Photo Provided by Tony Brooks



INVITATION TO TENDER

Sale of Used Mooring Chain

Sale of Used Mooring Chain

Port Control is inviting sealed tenders for the sale of used mooring chain currently located at the Rupert's Jetty.

The mooring chain is being offered in the following lots:

Lot 1 – Used Chain

Lot 2 – Used Chain

Lot 3 – Used Chain

Lot 4 – Used Chain

Lot 5 – Used Chain

Lot 6 – Used Chain

Lot 7 – Used Chain

Lot 8 – Used Chain

Lot 9 – Used Chain

Interested parties may arrange to inspect the chain prior to submission of tenders by contacting the Acting Harbour Master, Simon Wade, via email at simon.wade@sainthelena.gov.sh or by telephone 22738.



Example Picture

Tenders must clearly state:

The Lot number(s) being tendered for;
The proposed purchase price;
and full contact details of the bidder.

Tenders are to be placed in the tender box outside of the Procurement Office (located on the top floor of the Post Office building). Tenders should be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to Port Control, Seaport House, Ruperts Cargo Management Facility by no later than 16:00 Friday 3 July 2026.

Conditions of Sale

All items are sold "as seen".

No guarantee or warranty is provided regarding condition or suitability.

The successful bidder will be responsible for collection, loading, transport, and any associated costs.

Port Control reserves the right to reject any or all tenders and is not bound to accept the highest offer.

For further information or inspection arrangements, please contact the Acting Harbour Master, Simon Wade via email at simon.wade@sainthelena.gov.sh or by telephone 22738.

SHG

16 June 2026



JOIN US! WE ARE RECRUITING...

BENEFITS

- Leave – 30 days leave per annum, plus public holidays
- Paid sickness absence

Head of People (£30,560 to £36,271 per annum)

We are in search of an outstanding Head of People who merges professional credibility with emotional intelligence, resilience, creativity, and strategic insight. The ideal candidate will showcase a proven history in organisational development, transformational leadership, and the provision of high-quality people services within the public sector.

Holding a degree (or equivalent professional experience), you will possess a CIPD Level 7 qualification and be a Chartered Member (MCIPD) or Chartered Fellow (FCIPD) of the CIPD or have an equivalent professional accreditation. You will offer extensive experience in leading people functions, supported by a strong dedication to employee engagement, wellbeing, and the provision of customer-focused services.

With a thorough understanding of UK employment law and best practices, you are adept at analysing complex information, pinpointing opportunities for enhancement, and crafting effective, pragmatic solutions. Your background includes the creation and execution of people policies and strategies, engagement with senior-level stakeholders, and the leadership of high-performing teams. Through your inspirational leadership, you have effectively driven organisational change, implemented transformational programmes, and achieved measurable results.

Closing date: 28 June 2026

Shortlisting date: 07 July 2026

Interview date: 24 July 2026

For a discussion about the role please contact our recruitment partner, Gatenby Sanderson at orla.brennan@gatenbysanderson.com

For more information about St Helena Government terms and conditions please contact Nicole Stevens on email: nicole.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh

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...

Chair of the Safeguarding Board (£1,200 per annum retainer)

St Helena Government is seeking an experienced and independent safeguarding professional to serve as Independent Chair of the St Helena Safeguarding Board. This high-profile, non-executive role provides independent leadership and professional challenge to support strong, effective safeguarding arrangements for children and adults at risk across St Helena. Working collaboratively with senior leaders and partner agencies, the Chair will help ensure safeguarding activity is focused, coordinated and outcome-driven. The role would suit a senior professional with substantial leadership experience, a strong understanding of multi-agency working and the ability to operate with influence, sensitivity and independence. Experience of safeguarding leadership is highly desirable. The position is offered for an initial 3-year term. The successful candidate will receive an annual retainer fee of £1,200, paid quarterly in arrears, as well as a mileage allowance of 77p per mile for any mileage incurred using personal vehicles in connection with attendance at Board meetings, which are generally held once per month. In addition, they will also receive a monthly payment of £6.65 towards internet costs.

Due to the requirement to be independent, St Helena Government employees and holders of official office are not eligible to hold the position as Chair.

For further information about the duties of Chair of the Safeguarding Board and/or to obtain the 'Expression of Interest – Safeguarding Board Chair', interested persons may contact Nicole Plato on Tel No: 22525 or via e-mail nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh.

Completed expression of interest forms should be returned to Nicole Stevens, HR Assistant, email nicole.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh

Shortlisted persons will then be invited to a discussion with the Chief Secretary, and the successful applicant will be appointed subject to receipt of a satisfactory vetting certificate.

Please note that the advert placed in The Sentinel and The Independent in the w/c 8 June 2026 had an incorrect salary attached to the advert. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience or confusion that this has caused.

Closing date: 26 June 2026

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

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



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.

Safeguarding Strategic Delivery Manager (£30,560 per annum)

We are looking for a safeguarding strategic delivery manager, aimed at enhancing the lives of everyone in our community and fostering the island's prosperity. This role entails effective leadership, coordination, and operational management of all facets of the St Helena Safeguarding Board (SHSB). The individual in this position will assist statutory partners in developing, implementing, and continuously refining multi-agency safeguarding frameworks for children, young people, and vulnerable adults. This role is pivotal in providing strategic leadership to promote safeguarding throughout St Helena, ensuring that partners fulfil their statutory obligations and that safeguarding measures are effective, proportionate, and responsive to local needs. You will lead and oversee the daily operations of the SHSB, ensuring it functions effectively and complies with statutory requirements and established safeguarding guidelines (including the Working Together principles relevant to St Helena). Additionally, you will develop and uphold a multi-agency performance and quality assurance framework that mirrors the safeguarding duties and activities of all partners. Furthermore, you will manage the SHSB budget in line with Board directives, ensuring the efficient and transparent utilization of resources and oversee the daily operations of the SHSB to guarantee it runs effectively and efficiently.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Nicole Plato on Tel No. 22470 or Email: nicole.plato@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 26 June 2026

Shortlisting date: 30 June 2026

Interview date: 08 July 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.

Portfolio Director – Education, Skills & Employment (£46,631 to £51,812 per annum)

We are seeking a Portfolio Director of Education, Skills & Employment for a crucial Executive level position, overseeing a wide-ranging and impactful portfolio that includes education, skills development, and employment services. You will establish the strategic direction and ensure effective delivery throughout the system—from early childhood education to lifelong learning and workforce engagement—guaranteeing a cohesive, inclusive, and high-performing offering.

Education, skills, and employment are vital for unlocking economic growth, enhancing resilience, and improving life opportunities. With a strong commitment to investing in individuals and cultivating a workforce prepared for the future, this is a unique opportunity to create significant, system-wide impact—where leadership is evident and results are measurable. You will spearhead improvements in educational outcomes, enhance teaching and leadership capabilities, and align skills development with the island's economic goals. You will build robust partnerships across government, businesses, and the community to establish clear, accessible pathways to employment and lifelong opportunities.

This is an exceptional opportunity to lead comprehensive system transformation in a highly interconnected environment. You will possess a proven track record of leadership in education, skills, or employment, with the capacity to achieve sustained improvements in complex contexts. As a confident and collaborative leader, you will influence at the senior level while engaging genuinely with communities and stakeholders.

Portfolio Director – Safety, Security & Home Affairs (£46,631 to £51,812 per annum)

We are looking for an exceptional Portfolio Director, a confident and values-driven leader who excels at establishing trusted relationships with communities, partners, and political leaders. Resilient, adaptable, and composed under pressure, you will flourish in an environment that requires both strategic oversight and hands-on leadership. Most importantly, you will be driven by purpose and inspired by the chance to create a lasting impact on a community you can genuinely connect with.

The Safety, Security & Home Affairs portfolio is at the forefront of this ambition—protecting the island, ensuring the safety of its residents, and fostering prosperity. It encompasses a complex and vital system that includes policing, immigration and customs, fire and rescue, sea rescue, prison services, emergency planning, and critical national infrastructure. Together, these services are essential in upholding security, resilience, and public trust throughout the island.

This is a unique opportunity to lead a comprehensive safety and security function in a highly interconnected environment, where the effects of your leadership are both immediate and apparent. You will possess a proven track record in senior leadership roles within safety, security, justice, or related fields, with experience in managing intricate operational services and addressing evolving risks.

Closing date: 28 June 2026
Shortlisting date: 07 July 2026
Interview date: wk. commencing 20 July 2026

For a discussion about the role please contact our recruitment partner, Gatenby Sanderson at orla.brennan@gatenbysanderson.com

For more information about St Helena Government terms and conditions please contact Nicole Stevens on email: nicole.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh

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
- Paid sickness absence

Police Constable (£13,569 per annum)

A unique and challenging opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic and dynamic individual, to join the Royal St. Helena Police Service (RSHPS). The Royal St. Helena Police Service covers both Ascension Island and St. Helena and, at full strength, consists of 34 officers. We are seeking to recruit further Police Constables to support current Policing on both Saint Helena and Ascension.

In line with the requirements of the Police Service Ordinance 1985, the post holder must be under the age of 60 on the date of appointment.

Why join us?

Career Progression – Clear pathways for advancement within the Service, with opportunities to specialise and take on supervisory roles.

Training & Development – Access to professional training, accredited courses, and continuous development to help you grow in your policing career.

Salary Advancements – Competitive incremental pay structure as you gain experience and qualifications.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Julianne Stevens on Tel No.22626 or Email: julianne.stevens@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 June 2026

Shortlisting date: 29 June 2026

Interview date: 09 July 2026

Internal Auditor (£13,095 per annum)

We are seeking an internal auditor to assist the internal audit service in delivering its mandate of providing independent, objective assurance and consulting services designed to add value and improve SHG's operations. Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Tineyi Chiseya on Tel No.22692 or Email: tineyi.chiseya@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 June 2026

Shortlisting date: 29 June 2026

Interview date: 09 July 2026

Horse Point Landfill Site Operator (£10,088 per annum)

We are seeking a Landfill Site Operator to help deliver the Government's waste management services at the Horse Point Landfill Site. This is a key service that contributes to delivery of the Island's Waste Management Policy.

Contact us for more information and a discussion

Enquiries: Karl Martin on Tel No.24724 or Email: karl.martin@sainthelena.gov.sh

Closing date: 24 June 2026

Shortlisting date: 29 June 2026

Interview date: 08 July 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.

Teacher – Key Stage 2 (£13,569 per annum)

Are you passionate about shaping young minds and making a lasting impact in early education? We are looking for an inspiring and dedicated Teacher for Key Stage 2 to join our vibrant school community and nurture the next generation of learners. In this rewarding role, you will deliver engaging, high-quality teaching within Key Stage 2, creating a positive and stimulating learning environment where every child can thrive. You will plan and deliver well-structured, creative, and differentiated lessons that meet the diverse needs of all learners, ensuring each child is supported and challenged appropriately. You will also set purposeful home learning tasks that reinforce classroom learning and encourage continued progress. A key part of this role is fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive school environment, promoting positive behaviour, supporting student wellbeing, and maintaining high standards of discipline both inside and outside the classroom.

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Education Skills and Employment is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be required to provide proof of identity and qualifications, and will be subject to reference checks, an enhanced police background check, and any other safeguarding checks relevant to the role. We promote equality of opportunity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

Enquiries: Elaine Benjamin on Tel No. 22540 or Email: elaine.benjamin@sainthelena.edu.sh
Closing date: 03 July 2026
Shortlisting date: 09 July 2026
Interview date: 16 July 2026

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



**St Helena
Government**

TREASURY

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Reminder: Filing of Tax Returns

The Income Tax Office wishes to remind all persons of the due dates for filing Annual Income Tax Returns for the tax year 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026:

Persons deriving income from self-employment, trade or business, income from property or capital gains or losses.	30 June 2026
Employees claiming refund of PAYE tax.	31 July 2026

Annual Income Tax Returns can be downloaded at <https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/public-services/income-tax/> in the Relevant Forms section. Persons requiring further information or assistance to complete the Annual Income Tax Return, may contact Norma Thomas or Pamela Joshua via e-mail norma.thomas@sainthelena.gov.sh or pamela.joshua@sainthelena.gov.sh or call Tele. No. 25880.

SHG

11 June 2026



**St Helena
Government**

**Reminder: Minimum Wage to Increase
from 01 July 2026**

At a meeting of the Executive Council held on 10 March 2026, an increase to the minimum wage of 35p per hour for an adult 18+ and 28p for young persons aged 16 and 17 was approved.

This change will take effect from 01 July 2026 and will increase from £4.50 to £4.85 for persons over 18 years, and £3.55 to £3.63 for persons aged 16 or 17 years. This represents an annual increase of 7.8%. The approval of this increase is in line with raising living standards, benefitting workers and providing adequate time for businesses to plan and adapt.”

The principle informing the minimum wage is that of the Minimum Income Standard (MIS), which states that “minimum income is based on needs and not wants, but it provides more than what is just needed for survival. It supports social participation and recognises that choice is important, but also that choice cannot be unlimited”. Although the MIS varies for people based on their specific circumstances, the current MIS of at least £5.88 gross (before tax is paid) per hour for a family of four is dependent on the cost of housing, which includes costs to a family for renting accommodation or paying a housing loan, and car ownership.

In determining the increase, consideration was given to the current cost of living pressures on both employees and employers, and it was noted that a balance would need to be struck. The Minimum Wage Policy therefore recognises that there is a limit to the size of increases that businesses can absorb in a single year, whilst at the same time acknowledging the need to continue raising the minimum income level on St Helena to go some way in encouraging residents to remain in employment on St Helena.

This year’s increase follows consultations with employers, employees and other relevant stakeholders including the Chamber of Commerce.

The minimum wage will be reviewed again in early 2027 and will include public consultation to consider further uplifts for the period 2027/28.

Since its inception in 2013, the minimum wage has raised from £2.30 to £4.85 for persons over 18 years, and from £1.45 to £3.83 for persons aged 16 or 17 years. These increases equate to a 110% and 164% rise respectively.

What's the latest with the SHFA?

It has been confirmed that six teams will be entering this years football season which is due to kick of this weekend with

Saturday 20th June 2pm Rovers Vs Fugees

Sunday 21st June 1:30pm Bellboys Vs Harts

Sunday 21st June 3:30pm La Verde Vs STH Young Boys

See below a list of the teams and team captains, should you be interested in playing and don't have a team, then feel free to speak to any of them to see if any availability

Harts captained by Shane Stroud, Bellboys captained by Shane Benjamin, Rovers captained by Rico Benjamin, La Verde captained by Jordan Yon, Fugees captained by Travis Samuel –Yon and St Helena Young Boys captained by Gareth Drabble

The full fixtures for Round 1 are as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>VS</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>LINESMAN</u>
Saturday 20th June	2:00pm	Rovers	VS	Fugees	La Verde & STH Young Boys
Sunday 21st June	1:30pm	Bellboys	VS	Harts	Rovers & Fugees
Sunday 21st June	3:30pm	La Verde	VS	STH Young Boys	Bellboys & Harts
Saturday 27th June	2:00pm	Harts	VS	La Verde	Bellboys & Fugees
Sunday 28th June	1:30pm	Rovers	VS	STH Young Boys	Harts & La Verde
Sunday 28th June	3:30pm	Bellboys	VS	Fugees	Rovers & STH Young Boys
Saturday 4th July	2:00pm	Harts	VS	Rovers	Bellboys & La Verde
Sunday 5th July	1:30pm	Fugees	VS	STH Young Boys	Harts & Rovers
Sunday 5th July	3:30pm	Bellboys	VS	La Verde	Fugees & STH Young Boys
Saturday 11th July	2:00pm	Fugees	VS	Harts	La Verde & Rovers
Sunday 12th July	1:30pm	Bellboys	VS	STH Young Boys	Fugees & Harts
Sunday 12th July	3:30pm	La Verde	VS	Rovers	Bellboys & STH Young Boys
Saturday 18th July	2:00pm	Harts	VS	STH Young Boys	Bellboys & Rovers
Sunday 19th July	1:30pm	Fugees	VS	La Verde	Harts & STH Young Boys
Sunday 19th July	3:30pm	Bellboys	VS	Rovers	Fugees & La Verde

They have confirmed the season will be made up of two rounds for the league, followed by two rounds for the district and ending with the knockouts.

FOLLOW US EVERY WEEK FOR THE LATEST FROM THE SHFA ON FRANCIS PLAIN

ST HELENA GOLF REPORT

Contributed by St Helena Golf Club

St Helena Golf Club – 2026 Furrows Stroke Play Competition

Sunshine, smiles, and superb scoring set the tone as twenty golfers teed it up on Sunday, 7 June, for the ever-popular Furrows Stroke Play Competition, proudly sponsored by Fox Motors. With the weather absolutely perfect for golf high clouds, occasional sunny spells and gentle breezes the stage was set for a memorable day on the fairways and the players did not disappoint.

Leading the charge in style was Arthur Francis, who found his rhythm early and never let go. His impressive gross 77, combined with his handicap of 11, gave him a winning net 66 good enough to claim not only the Furrows title but also the first prize.

Hot on his heels was Jason Hopkins, who delivered a composed and consistent round to finish just one shot back on net 67, earning him the runner-up spot and second prize. Jason clearly had his eye in all day, adding a Nearest the Pin prize and one of the competition's "twos" to his tally.

Completing the podium was Patrick Johnson, whose solid play saw him post a net 68 to secure third place and prize.

Only five players managed to break into the 60s a true reflection of the competitive edge and quality of play on the day. Among them were Martin Buckley and Bramwell Bushuru, both carding excellent net 69s, with Martin edging into fourth place after a countback decision.

Leading Results (Net Scores)

1. Arthur Francis – 66 (77–11)
2. Jason Hopkins – 67 (77–10)
3. Patrick Johnson – 68 (85–17)
4. Martin Buckley – 69 (81–12)
5. Bramwell Bushuru – 69 (79–10)



Special Prize Winners

- Nearest the Pin** (Ladies, 7th Hole): Laura Buckley
- Nearest the Pin** (Gents, 14th Hole): Jason Hopkins
- Longest Drive** (Ladies, 9th Hole): Laura Buckley
- Longest Drive** (Gents, 4th Hole): Bramwell Bushuru

The excitement didn't stop there, with four "twos" recorded during the round—always a crowd- pleaser. Well done to: Jeffrey Stevens (1st hole), Keith Joshua (7th hole), Jason Hopkins (14th hole) and Gerald George (16th hole)



As the dust settled on a fantastic day of golf, the St Helena Golf Club once again extended its sincere appreciation to Fox Motors for their continued sponsorship. Their support plays a vital role in making events like the Furrows Competition such an enjoyable and successful occasion for all.

With perfect weather, great company, and top-class golf, this year's Furrows will surely be remembered as one of the highlights of the season.

Happy Swinging



Sunday 14th June 2026

Choose your partner Texas Scramble strokeplay competition.

Tee off 12:00 noon with Registration closing on Saturday 13th at 3pm.

They would also like to remind their members of the **biggest event on the St Helena Golf Club's Calendar SHGC Open Championship** is scheduled to take place on 20th, 21st, 27th & 28th June.



CRICKET REPORT

Contributed by St Helena Cricket Association

35 OVER LEAGUE

WINNERS	Challengers
RUNNERS UP	Levelwood Allstars
MOST RUNS	Andrew Yon of the Challengers (418 runs)
MOST SIXES	David Young of Sandy Bay Pirates (21 sixes)
BEST BATTING AVERAGE	Andrew Yon of the Challengers (104.5)
MOST WICKETS	Jordi Henry of the Challengers (12 wickets)
BEST BOWLING AVERAGE	Jordi Henry (10.33)
MOST CATCHES	Joey Thomas of the Challengers (8 catches)



T20 DISTRICT

WINNERS	Half Tree Hollow
RUNNERS UP	Levelwood
MOST RUNS	Andrew Yon of HTH (283 runs)
MOST SIXES	Andrew Yon of HTH (21 sixes)
BEST BATTING AVERAGE	Andrew Yon of HTH (94.33)
MOST WICKETS	Ashton Benjamin (Longwood) and Andrew Yon (HTH) with 11 wickets
BEST BOWLING AVERAGE	Joey Thomas (7.56)
MOST CATCHES	Joey Thomas of HTH (6 catches)



RMS T20

WINNERS	Challengers
RUNNERS UP	Mustangs
MOST RUNS	Joey Thomas of Challengers (200 runs)
MOST SIXES	Brooklyn Fowler of Sandy Bay Pirates (25 sixes)
BEST BATTING AVERAGE	Rhys Francis of Sandy Bay Pirates (99)
MOST WICKETS	Gareth Johnson of Western A Mustangs (13 wickets)
BEST BOWLING AVERAGE	David Francis of Levelwood Allstars (7.55)
MOST CATCHES	Weston Clingham of Levelwood Allstars (9 catches)





Premier League Confirms Law Changes for next season

The principles outlined by the Premier League for the upcoming season are as follows:

- Maintain a high threshold for penalising challenges – not every contact is a foul – while protecting player safety.
 - Maintain a high threshold for VAR intervention – "Referee's Call" will stand unless, in the opinion of the VAR, based upon the evidence readily available, that a call is a clear and obvious error.
 - More efficient application of VAR, including the improved use of semi-automated offside technology, to reduce VAR delays.
- Continue to focus on the in-stadium VAR experience.
 - Continue a robust approach to improving participant behaviour on-field and in the technical area.
 - Maintain stronger measures to reduce time-wasting and disruption tactics.

Additionally, the refereeing points of emphasis for the new season have been outlined as follows:

- Continue to deliver a "less is more" approach to penalising handball.
- Enhance recognition of holding offences on-field.
- Place a greater focus on challenges on goalkeepers where the attacking player clearly and unfairly impacts the ability of the goalkeeper to move to the ball.
- Deal proportionately when sanctioning hair-pulling through new guidance.
- Continue to deal robustly with clear actions intended to deceive the referee (simulation and embellishment).

This means officials will enhance recognition of clear holding actions, including penalising defenders who are clearly focused on the opponent and the attacker's ability to challenge or play for the ball. Challenges on goalkeepers will now be penalised where attackers make a clear action with no intent to play or challenge for the ball.

The issue of hair-pulling has also been changed, with red cards now awarded for a clear and deliberate action to pull an opponent's hair with excessive force and/or brutality. If hair-pulling is without excessive force or brutality, then a yellow card will be awarded to the offending player.

Laws of the game

Optional laws will not be enforced.

The laws coming into the Premier League are players leaving the field for one minute after receiving treatment, an increase on the 30 seconds previously used.

Players will have five seconds to take both a goal-kick and a throw-in or possession will be awarded to the opposing team should this threshold be exceeded.

Substituted players have 10 seconds to leave the field of play at the nearest point of exit. Should this period of time be exceeded, the player coming onto the field will be delayed until the next stoppage in play after one minute has passed.

VAR will now review the awarding of second yellow cards. This will only review the awarding of a second yellow card by the on-field official and cannot recommend a review that a second yellow card should be awarded.

The optional law of VAR reviewing incorrectly awarded corners, as has been the case at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, will not be enforced in the upcoming Premier League season.



Group A		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Team	Mexico	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
	South Korea	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	3
	Czech Republic	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0
	South Africa	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0

RESULTS	
Mexico	2 South Africa
South Korea	2 Czech Rep.

Group B		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Team	Switzerland	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
	Canada	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
	Qatar	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
	Bosnia-Herze	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

RESULTS	
Canada	1 Bosnia-Herze
Qatar	1 Switzerland

Group C		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Team	Scotland	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
	Morocco	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
	Brazil	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
	Haiti	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0

RESULTS	
Brazil	1 Morocco
Haiti	0 Scotland

Group D		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Team	United States	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	3
	Australia	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
	Paraguay	1	0	0	1	1	4	-3	0
	Turkey	1	0	0	1	0	2	-2	0

RESULTS	
United States	4 Paraguay
Australia	2 Turkey

Group E		Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Team	Germany	1	1	0	0	7	1	6	3
	Ivory Coast	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
	Ecuador	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
	Curaçao	1	0	0	1	1	7	-6	0

RESULTS	
Germany	7 Curaçao
Ivory Coast	1 Ecuador

Group F

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Netherlands	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
Japan	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1
Sweden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tunisia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
Netherlands	2 Japan
Sweden	5 Tunisia

Group G

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iran	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Zealand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
Belgium	Egypt
Iran	New Zealand

Group H

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Spain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cape Verde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saudi A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uruguay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
Spain	Cape Verde
Saudi A	Uruguay

Group I

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
France	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Senegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iraq	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norway	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
France	Senegal
Iraq	Norway

Group J

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Algeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Austria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
Argentina	Algeria
Austria	Jordan

Group K

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congo DR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uzbekistan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Colombia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
Portugal	Congo DR
Uzbekistan	Colombia

Group L

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Difference	Points
England	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ghana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Panama	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

RESULTS	
England	Croatia
Ghana	Panama



Top 20 rankings as of 11 June 2026

Rank	Change	Team	Points
1	▲ 1	Argentina	1877.27
2	—	Spain	1874.71
3	▼ 2	France	1870.7
4	—	England	1828.02
5	—	Portugal	1767.85
6	—	Brazil	1765.86
7	▲ 1	Morocco	1755.1
8	▼ 1	Netherlands	1753.57
9	—	Belgium	1742.24
10	—	Germany	1735.77
11	—	Croatia	1714.87
12	—	Italy	1704.73
13	—	Colombia	1698.35
14	▲ 1	Mexico	1687.48
15	▼ 1	Senegal	1684.07
16	▲ 1	Uruguay	1673.07
17	▼ 1	United States	1671.23
18	—	Japan	1661.58
19	—	Switzerland	1650.06

The first week of the World Cup has gone - 24 games played, another 48 Group Stage matches to go. After that, 32 games in the Knock Out rounds before we get a winner.

There have been upsets in the first week, and more must be on the way.

The biggest surprise was Cabo Verde (number 63 in the FIFA rankings) holding Spain (No3) to a 0-0 draw. There were others:

Country	Group	FIFA Ranking	Country	FIFA Ranking	Result	Rank Gap
Spain	H	3	Cabo Verde	63	0 - 0	60
New Zealand	G	82	Iran	24	2 - 2	58
Saudi Arabia	H	59	Uruguay	18	1 - 1	41
Portugal	K	7	DR Congo	43	1 - 1	36
Canada	B	32	Bosnia-Herze	63	1 - 1	31
Qatar	B	49	Switzerland	19	1 - 1	30
Belgium	G	10	Egypt	29	1 - 1	19

In three groups, both games so far have not gone to form

Vozinha's Virtuoso Cabo Verde Performance



Vozinha – gets to parts of the goalmouth other goalkeepers cannot reach

Cabo Verde's 40-year-old goalkeeper is the oldest goalkeeper to keep a clean sheet on his FIFA World Cup debut, making seven saves against Spain.



A team of journalists watched every side's opening game. They have ranked all 48 teams at the tournament, from first to last.

Will These be the Teams in the Quarter-Finals

1. France

Group I. Beat Senegal 3-1.

Lived up to pre-tournament hype with rampant second-half performance. Strength in every position. Deserved favourites.

2. England

Group L. Beat Croatia 4-2.

Scored four. Could have had more. Brilliant attacking performance led by Harry Kane. Slight concerns at the back.

3. Argentina

Group G. Beat Algeria 3-0.

They have Lionel Messi and a team that is lifted by his presence and genius. That's enough to be top three.

4. Germany

Group E. Beat Curacao 7-1.

Any team that scores seven in their opening fixture cannot be ignored - regardless of the (lack of) quality of the opposition.

5. USA

Group D. Beat Paraguay 4-1.

Surprise inclusion in the top five. Destroyed Paraguay with a slick performance and have the home crowd on their side.

6. Norway

Group I. Beat Iraq 4-1.

A team who are built around Erling Haaland and are set up to play to his strengths.

7. Colombia

Group K. Beat Uzbekistan 3-1.

Powerful, quick and with a sprinkle of star dust that is Luis Diaz. Colombia will hurt plenty of teams.

8. Morocco

Group C. Drew 1-1 with Brazil.

Looked like blowing Brazil away in opening 20 minutes. Then appeared to settle for a draw in second half. More in the tank.

Joke Of The Week

“I saw a man at the World Cup with tickets on his car dashboard the other day. When he came back, someone smashed the window and left two more.”

***“My mate said he’s happy living in the shadows.
Must be an Everton fan.”***

Sweden Suits Graham Potter

Graham Potter was appointed head coach of the Swedish national team in October last year. In the world cup qualifiers, Sweden had drawn two and lost four but somehow they were in the play-offs. Under Graham Potter they beat Ukraine in the semi-final, then Poland in the play-off final. This week, Sweden, ranked 35th in the FIFA rankings ran out 5-1 winners against Tunisia, ranked 56.



Graham Potter – enjoying life in Texas this week

The last official FIFA rankings were on 11th June. Since then, Sweden jumped up three places and Tunisia has dropped eleven. Where Sweden might be after playing Morocco and the Netherlands will be interesting. Whatever happens, Graham Potter will be in a better position than he was coaching English Teams.

Before becoming Sweden’s national coach, Potter was with Swansea, Brighton, Chelsea and West Ham. His coaching skills were not exploited by some of those clubs. Before taking the job at Swansea, Potter was with Swedish second tier club, Östersund, for seven years.

MACS SHIPPING SCHEDULE UPDATE



WHATEVER YOU NEED TO SHIP

	LILAC ROLLER 261210	GREY FOX 261212	GOLDEN KAROO 261215
Immingham	25-Apr	06-Jun	11-Jul
	KAROLINE 261705	KAROLINE 261706	KAROLINE 261706
Cape Town	11-Jun	12-Jul	15-Aug
Rupert's Bay	19-Jun	20-Jul	23-Aug
Ascension Island			28-Aug
	KAROLINE 261805	KAROLINE 261806	KAROLINE 261806
Cape Town	02-Jul	2-Aug	13-Sep

*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



"It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr Ian Baker, 84, on 31st May 2026."

Ian was born on 28th May 1942 in the English village of Stewartby, Bedfordshire. He studied Geology at Imperial College, London (having taught himself at A level because the school did not have any academically equipped teachers of that subject). After acquiring his Bachelor's degree, he was given the opportunity to come to St Helena to collect geological data and investigate the geology of the Island. He came first for four months in 1963 and then for five further months in 1964/65 to answer a few more questions his first trip had brought up. He also wrote the Island Pantomime in 1963 in rhyming couplets – a printed copy of the script still exists! Whilst on St Helena, Ian had grown close to Islanders Basil and Barbara George, amongst others, who took him in, befriended him and became lifelong friends. It isn't clear whether it was they or others who conferred upon him the nickname "The Rock Man".



The Island got into his veins, and after a successful career working for the British Council (mainly as a Science officer in countries including India and Mexico) he returned to the island many years later in 1993 having never forgotten his experiences nor the island itself. Then, on two more extended trips over the next 10 years, he came back again to explore as much as he could of this incredible place. As well as Basil and Barbara and their family, Ed and Nick Thorpe were great fonts of knowledge for Ian's research, and he valued the time he spent with them. He wrote and self-published various books, the most famous of which can still be found on Amazon: "St Helena: One Man's Island".

Ian is lovingly survived by his sons Dhruv and Siddhartha (Sidd) and grandchildren Arun, Alexander, Rafferty and Nina.

A private family funeral service will be held on 24th June 2026 at 2:45 at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium. We hope to broadcast the Funeral online (details to follow).

In lieu of flowers, donations are being accepted for The Salvation Army or The Multiple Sclerosis Society.