



Michael Thorpe:  
**THE FINAL VERDICT**

**Remembrance  
Sunday Divine Service in  
Pictures**



**Cricket News +  
Who Won the Raffle**



**Can we keep Saint FM alive?**  
(see inside)



# Michael Thorpe Guilty

After a series of court sessions, on Monday Michael Thorpe was found guilty of unlawfully destroying 'Pepper' the dog. The sentencing is scheduled for Wednesday at 2pm.

In two Rulings, made in the magistrate's court on Monday, the verdict of Chief Magistrate Duncan Cooke was to find Michael Thorpe guilty of destroying a dog without lawful excuse contrary to the Criminal Damage Ordinance, 1979. Mr Thorpe was also found guilty of failing to comply with a condition subject to which a firearms certificate was issued in that he used a gun for purposes other than sport or vermin control contrary to the Firearms Ordinance, 1997.

In one of three Rulings made in the court sessions on this case, Duncan Cooke said "On the evidence it is clear that Mr Thorpe was entitled to protect his fish from the dog at the time the dog was in the pond and the issue for the criminal damage is whether the means of protection were reasonable having regard to all the circumstances." The Chief Magistrate also stated, "We find that, having regard to the interviews, that Mr Thorpe believed he had a right to shoot a dog on his land. We find that this belief, combined with the fact that he chose to get a gun and load it before going to look for the dog, demonstrates so that we are sure that his intention was to shoot and kill the dog whatever the circumstances he found it in."

## Sentient Animal in Distress

Duncan Cooke continued, "However, he did find the dog in his pond and it was reasonable to remove the dog from the pond to protect the fish. What was not reasonable was the method used to remove the dog. It was unnecessary to shoot a sentient animal that was in distress and that was attempting to extricate itself from the pond. The dog could be assisted out of the pond without having to put hands near it. The very act of shooting the dog exacerbated the circumstances that Mr Thorpe asserts he was trying to achieve, namely to prevent the silt at the bottom of a 6-foot pond from being disturbed. Simply put there was no purpose to

**Continued on INSIDE BACK PAGE...**



THE ST HELENA

INDEPENDENT

<https://www.independent.sh/indy-news/>

**YOUR DAILY AND  
WEEKLY NEWS**

The St Helena Independent News website provides the main news item of the day most weekdays and often at weekends. This week's daily main news item included Fire at Horse Point and Michael Thorpe Guilty. The daily news gives you the headline information for every story – the Friday Independent gives you the full story and plenty of other stories.

You even get an email alert telling you a new main story has been posted on the website. Give it a try. Use the link at the top of the page and set up the Independent News straight to you, where ever you are. While Saint FM is in the process of being re-organised The Independent News website is publishing Community Personal Announcements. These announcements could include all kinds of things – like birthday wishes, but that's not possible. The Personal Announcements on the website will be the place for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements. This feature will continue until Saint FM's future looks more certain – then we will decide if it is still needed on the Indy website.

If you have a birth, marriage or death announcement you would like posted on the Indy website, please email it to [news@independent.sh](mailto:news@independent.sh)

## Michael Thorpe Sentenced Yesterday

The Chief Justice found Michael Thorpe guilty on Monday this week. Yesterday at 2pm all parties concerned returned to court for the sentencing. The prosecution spoke first. Details were given, mostly about the distress caused to the family when Pepper went missing. 'Missing' was all Pepper's owners were aware of; they were unaware Pepper had been shot and buried. Kacie, the other family dog did return home. It was immediately apparent to the family that Kacie was upset and possibly traumatised. It seems likely that Kacie witnessed Pepper's shooting. The family have also noticed that Kacie will stick with them when out walking. The dog appears nervous about straying too far.

The Yon family said that Pepper was a much-loved member of the family and no amount of money could compensate for her loss. All they had left of Pepper was her collar, returned to them by the vet.

When sentencing Michael Thorpe, Chief Justice Duncan Cooke recalled the actions of Michael Thorpe immediately before the shooting. The sentencing record states:

1. Mr Thorpe you were found guilty after trial of two offences, destruction of property belonging to another, namely a dog, and breaching the terms of your firearms certificate by using the firearm for purposes other than that which was permitted.

2. On the 30th of June 2024 a dog came onto your land and you heard it barking. Your immediate reaction was to go into your house, get a rifle, load it with ammunition and go and look for the dog. We are satisfied from those actions and the contents of your interviews that your intention from the moment you heard the dog was to shoot it because it was on your land.

3. You came across the dog in your fish pond and the dog was in distress as it could not climb out of the pond. Instead of helping the dog out of the pond you shot it twice to the head killing it instantly.

4. By using your gun in this way you breached the terms of your firearms certificate in that you did not use your gun for sport or vermin control.

5. The shooting of this dog was a deliberate act that required a high degree of planning in that you armed yourself with a gun and loaded the weapon with ammunition. Your intention was to cause very serious damage to property in that you intended to kill an animal. Applying the guidelines for criminal damage to property valued at less than £5000 culpability is high for the two reasons already given and falls within category A.

6. We have read the impact statement of Patrice Yon who was the owner of the dog. She talks about the distress during the days following Pepper's disappearance. Pepper was a family pet who she had had since the dog was 6 weeks of age in June 2021. The dog was clearly loved by her family and she had had two litters of puppies, the last litter being just 5 weeks before you killed her. Mrs Yon described in her statement the negative impact on her son and the stress suffered by her husband.



**Serena and Michael Thorpe**

7. In light of this we find that serious distress was caused by your actions and place harm in category 1.

8. On the guidelines this is an A1 offence with a starting point of a high-level community order. We do not treat the fact that the property was of great sentimental value to the loser as an aggravating factor as we have had regard to that at step 1 when assessing the impact on the loser. The only matter in your favour is your good character.

9. The main focus of this sentencing hearing will relate to preventing this happening again and compensating the victims of your actions. Given your age and previous good character, we will not impose a community penalty but step back from that.

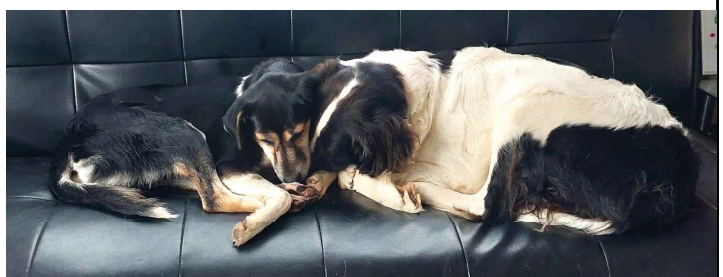
10. For the destruction of property offence we will order compensation of £1000 to Patrice Yon for her pain and suffering. You will be fined the equivalent of 2 weeks income in place of a community penalty, that being a notional Band D fine. The fine is therefore £1,150. You will pay £200 in prosecution costs. This is a total of £2,350 and you have 28 days to pay the money owing to the court.

11. In relation to the firearms offence we make no separate penalty but pursuant to s.42 of the Firearms Ordinance, 1997 the Marlin 39A .22 rifle used to kill the dog will be forfeited and your firearms certificate FA002/2022 will be cancelled, for the avoidance of doubt the cancellation of the certificate means that you cannot possess any firearm or ammunition that requires a firearms certificate. We have no power to cancel the shot gun certificate but the Chief of Police will no doubt consider whether the certificate should be revoked in accordance with s.27 of the Firearms Ordinance, 1997. This ruling shall be sent to the Chief of Police and it is deemed to be the relevant notice required by s.42(2) of the Ordinance.

*Signed by*

*Duncan Cooke, CM*

*Barry Hubbard, JP*





# Editorial

Many people may think of dyslexia as a reading difficulty, or the occasional embarrassing mix-up of letters. One brainy dyslexic had found that dyslexia isn't just a barrier. It's also a unique and undervalued cognitive strength. Yes, you read that right. Dyslexia, the so-called "learning difficulty", can actually be an advantage. There's growing evidence that dyslexic minds bring something extra, even with people who push the boundaries of learning.

Dyslexic thinkers are strongly gifted with visual-spatial reasoning. I know. What the . . . does that mean? It means they can make sense of bits of anything, in any form, scattered about and easily visualise what the bits look like when put together.

This cartoon explains it –



On the left, not dyslexic - on the right, dyslexic. This mental advantage means dyslexic people frequently come up with innovative ideas, forging connections between seemingly unrelated ideas or notions, and tackling problems from unusual angles. This creative cognitive style has the potential to not only facilitate breakthroughs in new learning but also enrich our understanding of complex issues, offering fresh understanding that can drive meaningful change. Exactly how and why dyslexics have this kind of mental advantage is something the brainy dyslexic mentioned at the beginning is working on. Universities and research centres tend to label dyslexics and categorise them. The university

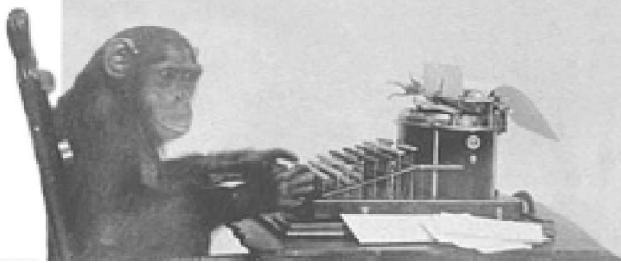
world "rewards linear thinking, attention to detail and quick reading and writing skills. It's designed for people who think in straight lines, not loops." says brainy dyslexic. He also states. "Many dyslexic minds don't work that way. Our strength lies in seeing the bigger picture, connecting seemingly unrelated ideas, and thinking outside the proverbial box. Yet, the way academia is structured – with endless reading lists and rigid formatting – often marginalises these strengths."

During his PhD, brainy dyslexic said, "it wasn't the complexity of the ideas that tripped me up. It was the small details: spelling, formatting and trying to sequence my thoughts clearly. I'd find myself stuck on a paragraph, unable to remember how I'd planned to connect my ideas, while my brain was busy jumping ahead. That's when I realised: maybe the problem isn't me. Maybe it's the system."

Pointing to another weakness in the system, or can we say the weakness of conventional thinkers, "the problem isn't the way we think, but academia's refusal to adapt to diverse ways of processing information." Brainy dyslexic criticises the reliance on the written word in the world of universities and research. "Imagine how much more dynamic research could be if it went further in embracing visual presentations, multimedia formats or collaborative projects. Dyslexia could revolutionise research – particularly in fields requiring creativity and complexity. Isn't research supposed to be about the unique problem-solving approaches and out-of-the-box thinking that dyslexics offer?"

Brainy dyslexic signs off saying, "This isn't a sob story about how hard it is to be dyslexic in the academic world. It's a call to rethink intellectual contributions. The world faces complex problems that won't be solved by rigid, linear thinking. Academics need minds that can zigzag through ideas, connect dots others can't see, and offer fresh perspectives. Dyslexic thinkers are already doing this – we just need academia to recognise





# Editorial

it.”

It is hardly surprising that people with autism (or autism spectrum deficiency) are on the receiving end of similar conventional thinking. It is recognised there are ‘autistic strengths’ such as attention to detail and logical thinking. In these areas autistic people often perform better than non-autistic people. However, research and understanding of autism still remains patchy; a situation which encourages conventional thinkers not to bother to think further. Maybe autistic and dyslexic thinkers might think conventional thinkers are guilty of lazy thinking.

To take a third sector of so-called mental disability, people with Downs Syndrome usually have their particular mental strengths. A keenness for visual learning is one, good visual memory another. New words are learnt easily and quickly

and they have a natural ability to use technology.

Mental Health Awareness Week happens once a year but attitudes towards what some conventional thinkers might see as the unconventional, or ‘not one of us’ are something that can be adjusted throughout the year.



Have a good long weekend

**Vince**

## Blue Hill Gets into the Christmas Spirit

Save Saturday 21st December for an afternoon of Gospel Song, Carols and Tea at the Blue Hill Community Centre. The event will be held from 3 - 6pm. Tickets will cost £5 for Entrance and Tea.

Bar facilities will be available.

A raffle will also be held and funds raised will be in aid of St Helena & The Cross Church.

You are invited to go along and support a good cause ...and a Surprise will also be awaiting you during the afternoon performance

**Look forward to seeing you there.**

**Blue Hill Community Association**



## Diocese of St Helena

### The Parish of St Paul's

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Thirty-third Sunday of the Year

|           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 8.00 a.m. | Eucharist | Cathedral |
| 9.30 a.m. | Eucharist | Cathedral |
| 3.30 p.m. | Eucharist | St Peter  |

### The Parish of St James

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Thirty-third Sunday of the Year

|           |                                    |          |
|-----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| 9.30 a.m. | Eucharist                          | St James |
|           |                                    |          |
|           | <b>Thursday 21st November 2024</b> |          |
| 7.00 p.m. | Eucharist with Healing             | St John  |

### The Parish of St Matthew

#### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Thirty-third Sunday of the Year

|            |  |                     |
|------------|--|---------------------|
| 11.15 a.m. | Eucharist                                    | St Mark             |
| 3.30 p.m.  | Eucharist                                    | Barnabas, Levelwood |
|            |  |                     |
|            | <b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024</b> |                     |
| 7.00 p.m.  | Reserved Sacrament                           | St Mark             |

# St Helena Getting More Attention



## One Team of Education Experts left St Helena Last Week – Another Two Teams Arrive This Weekend

A team from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) spent a week in St Helena to “assess the current suitability of primary school education buildings on the island”. This means gathering information to help decide whether St Helena now needs only one primary school or maybe two. The falling number of schoolchildren in primary schools has for a long time raised the question, does St Helena need all three existing primary schools

The option of keeping the three existing primary schools is officially still on the table but the number of schoolchildren in primary school classes strongly indicates that change is on the way.



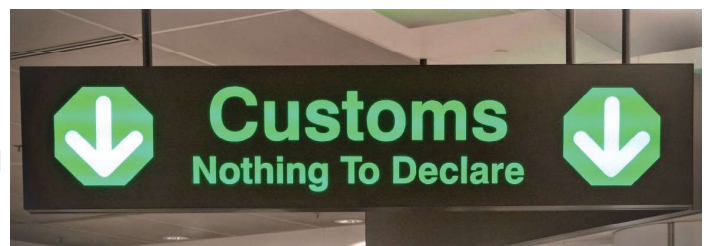
One week after the FCDO team flew back to the UK, two more education experts arrive from Hampshire County Council. They will be here for two weeks from 9th November to advise on the educational provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This aspect of education provision has also been raised as requiring special attention. The number of primary schools and the SEND review are both part of the ongoing Education Review which has been in place for well over a year. These recent visits suggest the Review has upped the pace a bit.

## More FCDO Officials Arriving on 9th November

A second team of FCDO officials will come to St Helena this week as part of the package of measures agreed when St Helena Government said migrants taking refuge on the Indian Ocean Chagos Islands will be accepted here.

The FCDO team will be working with St Helena Immigration and Customs to identify any additional training needs that may be required and check out areas where operating procedures could be developed.

On 1st November, St Helena Immigration stopped requiring arriving passengers at the airport to complete landing cards. Now the red and green channels are in use to make a smoother passage through HM Customs.





# Sri Lankans stranded on Diego Garcia for three years allowed to enter UK

Dozens of Sri Lankans stranded on the remote Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia for more than three years are to be airlifted to the UK after the government dropped its opposition to their case, the high court has heard.

According to British Media, the Guardian, the 64 people, including 16 children, have been stranded on the island since October 2021, when a fishing boat they were using to flee persecution in Sri Lanka got into difficulties.

The commissioner on the British Indian Ocean Territory argued that they could be lawfully returned to Sri Lanka, but the refugees fought the decision in the courts.

On Monday, the high court heard that the UK government had dropped its opposition to the group's case and that they would be permitted to travel to the UK.

The majority of the group are still on the island but eight have been sent to Rwanda for medical treatment unavailable on Diego Garcia. Those in Rwanda are to be brought to the UK as well. The only exceptions the UK government has made relate to three Sri Lankans who have criminal convictions. Their fate is unclear.

In a letter from the government legal department disclosed in the high court, officials confirmed that the government would bring the vast majority of people on the island to the UK, subject to entry clearance applications being submitted, biometrics being enrolled and no adverse information arising out of these checks. An offer was recently made to some of the Sri Lankans on the island to send them to Romania for six months, with a view to them later moving to the UK. Monday's offer cancels the earlier one.

A report by the UN earlier this year following an inspection of the conditions the Sri Lankans of Tamil origin experienced on the island concluded they had been unlawfully detained and should be urgently relocated after experiencing violence, abuse and arbitrary detention.



Most of the Sri Lankans arrived on the island on 3 October 2021. They were rescued and taken there after a boat they were travelling in, hoping to reach Canada to claim asylum, got into difficulty.

The UK agreed to hand over the Chagos Islands to Mauritius last month, ending years of bitter dispute over the territory. Nevertheless, Diego Garcia, which is the largest of the islands in the archipelago and home to a UK-US military base, will remain under UK control.

The government spokesperson said any future arrivals to Diego Garcia before a deal was finalised would be sent to the island of St Helena.



But there is more. . .

## Trump's Election Gives Hope to Opponents of Chagos Islands Deal



**Attack sub, USS Helena, makes a stopover at the strategic U.S. naval base on Diego Garcia**

In the wake of President Trump's decisive re-election, a political campaign is gathering steam on both sides of the Atlantic to pressure the United Kingdom's Labour government into abandoning its recent agreement to hand sovereignty over the Chagos Islands to Mauritius.

# Last Week's Fire at Horse Point Landfill

A fire at Horse Point Landfill broke out on Tuesday last week. By Friday it had been brought under control but was still smouldering and being monitored.

The fire was in the Green Waste Cell, where waste vegetation is stored for eventual composting. The Fire Service, together with landfill manager Patrick Crowie and his team are now monitoring the site in case any of the smouldering areas re-ignite.



## Calling all people of the St Paul's District!

The Guinea Grass Community Centre Association is holding their AGM on Wednesday, 27 November 2024 at 7pm at the Guinea Grass Community Centre. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated.

If a Committee cannot be formed on the evening, the Community Centre would unfortunately have to close!

See you there!

## Baptist Church Gospel Outreach

MAKE A  
**JOYFUL**  
Noise  
TO THE  
**LORD**

*sing!*  
**When:** Sunday:  
17<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**Where:** Kingshurst Community  
Centre

**Time:** 3.00 pm



*sing!*



# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE 2024

The Right Reverend Lord Bishop of St Helena, Dale Bowers, led the Remembrance Service last Sunday with Governor Nigel Phillips and Mrs Phillips in attendance. Also present were Speaker Cyril Gunnell, Minister Brooks and Chief Secretary Susan O'Bey, Ex-Servicemen and women, persons who served on the RMS St Helena during the 1982 Falklands War and the St Helena Veterans Association (SHVA). A wreath was laid for St Helena, Ascension and Tristan Da Cunha by the Governor. Other wreaths were laid for the President of the French Republic, the Government of St Helena, St Helena Legislative Council, the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force, the Merchant Navy, the Royal St Helena Police Force, the St Helena Fire and Sea Rescue Services and the SHVA. Members of the public and school children also laid wreaths. A wreath was also laid by divers in the harbour, in commemoration of those who lost their lives on board the RFA Darkdale. St Helena Government's UK Representative, Mrs Kedell Worboys, laid a wreath on behalf of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan Da Cunha at the UK's Ceremony of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in London. Similar services of Remembrance were held on Ascension, Tristan and the Falklands.

## St Helena



## Ascension



Continues on  
NEXT PAGE...



# REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE 2024

## UK



## Falkland Islands



## Tristan da Cunha





# Your Opinion Counts

Dear Editor

"The Times" of 5th November carried a full page obituary of Lord Renwick of Clifton who had died aged 86. He had been appointed British Ambassador to South Africa (1988-1991) and is remembered as a key figure in the dismantling of apartheid. As - Sir Robin at the time - "he was an inspired choice", records the obituary, "he was resourceful, independent, and media savvy. His mild manner and roguish charm concealed an inner steel." Acting largely on his own initiative he wooed leading Afrikaners, moderate voices in the African National Congress (ANC) including Cyril Ramaposa. To progress these contacts he needed to meet clandestinely in secret places. Aware that the (original) RMS St Helena was scheduled to be in Cape Town, over a weekend in 1989, and idle on the Saturday, he asked to use the ship on which to hold a larger than usual secret meeting in which Helen Suzman played a prominent part. The setting was duly arranged and a small part of history took place in the ship's Stern Gallery which included a buffet lunch being made available. The ship's staff played no part in the meeting's secretive proceedings. This was St Helena's contribution to half a paragraph of South Africa's recent history. Nelson Mandela strode out into freedom in February 1990.

Yours sincerely

**Andrew Bell**

**Porthleven  
Cornwall**

Dear Editors,

Please kindly publish the following article.

## Trimming of the Bougainvillea

Trimming of the overgrown Bougainvillea Tree in the semi-circular garden near the Castle entrance, has revealed the Defensive West Wall Parapet Lines that was James Fort along time ago before the Fort became the Castle we know today and Jamestown itself. Likewise, the South Wall Defensive Lines can be seen when entering the Public Works Department Yard. These historic Defensive Lines was to defend

against invading enemy forces from inland.

And should the Bougainvillea recover from its present fate, could it be regularly maintained to a minimum in the future, to allow the Defensive Parapet Lines of the James Fort from the early years to be fully recognized, admired, and appreciated by islanders and visitors alike.

A concern Heritage Society  
Member

**Aubrey George**



St Helena  
Government

## "IT STARTS WITH MEN"



## WHITE RIBBON DAY

***Extend your solidarity by joining us for the "White Walk"***

***On the 25th of November, 2024 at 11:30 AM***

The parade will start from the Hospital and proceed into Jamestown.

A gathering will take place at Colemans House for the ceremonial Flag Raising, followed by the planting of rose bushes at the Castle Gardens for the Closing Ceremony.



## Tender Notice

The Ascension Island Government invites tenders for the following tyres marked as Lots 1 - 17 as listed below. These items will be sold on an 'as is' basis with no warranty given or implied.

| LOT NO. | DESCRIPTION                              | QTY |                        |
|---------|--|-----|------------------------|
| 1       | Tyre 7.5 R16 BFG Mud terrain             | 4   | Landrover              |
| 2       | Tyre 7.5 R16 BFG Mud terrain             | 3   | Landrover              |
| 3       | Tyre 7.5 R16 Michelin 4x4                | 5   | Landrover              |
| 4       | Tyre 7.5 R16 Michelin 4x4                | 5   | Landrover              |
| 5       | Tyre 7.5 R16 Michelin 4x4                | 5   | Landrover              |
| 6       | Tyre 185 R14                             | 4   | (LDV Truck)            |
| 7       | Tyre 185 R14                             | 4   | (LDV Truck)            |
| 8       | Tyre 195/65 R16                          | 4   | (Vauxhall Vivaro)      |
| 9       | Tyre 195/65 R16                          | 4   | (Vauxhall Vivaro)      |
| 10      | Tyre 205/65 R16                          | 6   | (Vauxhall Vivaro)      |
| 11      | Tyre 205/65 R16                          | 6   | (Vauxhall Vivaro)      |
| 12      | Tyre 205/65 R16                          | 6   | (Vauxhall Vivaro)      |
| 13      | Tyre 205/65 R16                          | 4   | (Vauxhall Vivaro)      |
| 14      | Tyre 275/22.5 70R18PR                    | 7   | (Fire Tender)          |
| 15      | Tyre 255/22.5 70R                        | 6   | (Dennis Slurry Tanker) |
| 16      | Tyre 1400 x 24 Goodyear (tubeless)       | 4   | Forklift Truck         |
| 17      | Tyre 1400 x 24 Rintal Rock E3 (tubeless) | 2   | Forklift Truck         |

Any questions regarding the lots or viewing requests may be directed to Stores Team Leader, Ms Gerrilyn Crowie by telephone on 66561 during Central Stores opening hours or by email [gerrilyn.crowie@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:gerrilyn.crowie@ascension.gov.ac). All tenders should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked 'Tender: Lot No. x' to the Secretary of the Tender Board, Administrator's Office, Georgetown, no later than 16:00 on Friday 22 November 2024. Bids may also be emailed with the subject line 'Tender: Lot No. x', and sent to [inquiries@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:inquiries@ascension.gov.ac). Any tender received after the specified time and date will not be considered.

Please be advised that the Board does not bind itself to accept any tender, nor will it assign any reason for the rejection of a tender.



# Join us! We are recruiting...



St Helena  
Government

JOIN THE PUBLIC SERVICE

## Trainee Helmsmen (Sea Rescue)

(£7,700 per annum)

Applications will be considered from 16 years +

Are you keen to improve the lives of all within our community and help the island thrive by protecting and saving lives at sea? If you are a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual with the ability to remain calm under extreme physical and mental pressure, then the St Helena Sea Rescue Service has the above opportunities for you to join their team.

Contact us for more information and a discussion on the above posts.

Enquiries: Leeroy Caswell ([leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh](mailto:leeroy.caswell@helanta.co.sh)) or  
Mark Caswell ([mark.caswell@helanta.co.sh](mailto:mark.caswell@helanta.co.sh))  
on Tel no. 25215

Closing date: 22 November 2024

## Support Worker (Cape Villa)

1 Year Fixed - Term Contract

(£7,960 per annum)

(Available for local interest only)

Are you interested in providing assistance and direction to persons living within Sheltered Accommodation, which will enable them to live relatively independent, but with an oversight of support for their wellbeing?

Contact us for more information and a discussion.

Enquiries: Hannah Herne on Tel no. 23230 or  
Email: [Hannah.herne@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Hannah.herne@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Closing date: 22 November 2024

## 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](http://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](mailto:recruitment@sainthelena.gov.sh) or paper copies delivered to the Human Resources Officer by the closing date.

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

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



## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

### Healthcare Assistant

**Total package value up to £18,798 pa**

**(comprising salary of £11,520.00 per annum plus food and utilities allowances, free housing and other benefits)**

#### About the role

We're offering a unique opportunity for an experienced and motivated Healthcare professional to join our nursing and medical team at Georgetown Hospital.

Georgetown Hospital operates with a small team of motivated and dedicated healthcare professionals, providing primary and secondary healthcare, and dental services, for the island's circa 800 people working on the island, and their dependents.

#### What you'll do

As Healthcare Assistant, you'll be working as part of a small, professional team to provide exceptional standards of care to your patients. Because of the unique nature of the island, as well as regular healthcare assistant responsibilities you'll also be willing to carry out other duties; particularly desirable would be X-ray techniques, or the willingness to be trained. You'll also be a member of the first responder team, driving the ambulance to medical emergencies and supporting senior medical staff on emergency call-outs. Previous experience of working in a healthcare environment will also be extremely valuable in the role.

#### What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of £11,520 per annum (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts a single status contract and these benefits:

- Rent free furnished accommodation worth £1,200 pa (taxable benefit)
- A single status food allowance of £3,780 pa (taxable benefit)
- An electricity allowance worth £938 per year
- A single status water allowance worth £1,360 pa
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including assistance with shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment for you and your family
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free annual travel insurance

#### This appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory Employment References.
- Enhanced Criminal Records Check.
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance.

#### What's it like to work in Ascension?

Ascension is a small volcanic island, situated in the South Atlantic, with a warm stable climate (26-34°C). We are part of the wider UK Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, situated approximately 1,000 miles from the mainland of Africa and 800 miles from our nearest neighbour, the island of St Helena. To thrive here in this high-profile role, you must be resilient, adaptable and able to live and work in an incredibly small community with limited availability of perishable food, non-food items and internet connectivity.

For more information and the job description please email [recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)

To apply please email a letter stating why you believe you are qualified for the role and your cv to

[recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)

Closing Date: 1 Dec 2024 Interviews: Week commencing 9 Dec 2024 (by Skype if off island).





## ASCENSION ISLAND GOVERNMENT

### Human Resources Manager

#### Total Package value up to £41,577

(comprising salary of £27,350.00 per annum plus food and utilities, free housing and other benefits – details below)

#### About the role

The small HR team at Ascension Island Government provides all aspects of HR services to the employees and dependents of AIG. This includes end-to-end recruitment campaigns, employee relations management, internal communications, development of HR policies and procedures, provision of training/learning and development, staff communication and travel. The role of Human Resources Manager is a varied and hands-on role, delivering routine tasks up to more complicated employee relations matters and HR advice to the Director of Resources.

#### What you'll do

One day will never be the same as the next in this role, and expecting the unexpected is to be expected! It is an enjoyable and varied role in a very unique setting. Working within our own employment legislation and in line with UK best practice, this leadership role is a combination of practical and hands-on delivery, as well as handling more complicated employee relations issues. The location of the role, access to the island, the diversity of our working population, the environment and the availability of resources all lead to this being a very unique and unforgettable experience of leading and managing a HR function.

#### What you'll bring

You'll be CIPD qualified or equivalent, (or part qualified with a willingness to progress towards full qualification, or demonstrable experience) and have the ability to lead and manage a small team of HR staff working across all generalist areas of HR. You'll have excellent written and oral communication skills which you will use to create all HR written material and communication (adverts, policies, procedures, contracts, internal communication) as well as developing effective working and professional relationships in a small community setting. You'll be a self-starter, willing to roll up your sleeves and switch between routine operational activity to more complex employee relations issues. It's a great roll for an experienced senior HR generalist who is self-motivated, flexible and adaptable.

#### What we offer

In addition to an annual salary of £27,350 per annum (taxable on Ascension), the role attracts an accompanied status contract and these benefits:

- Rent free furnished accommodation worth £3,000 pa (taxable benefit)
- A food allowance of £7,560 a year accompanied or £3,780 single status per year (taxable benefit)
- An electricity allowance worth £938 per year
- A water allowance worth £2,729 accompanied or £1,360 single status per year
- Relocation costs for your personal effects, including assistance with shipment of a vehicle
- One mid-contract return journey to your country of recruitment for you and your family
- A gratuity payable on the successful completion of a 2-year contract
- 30 days annual holiday (with additional 9 days public holidays)
- Free primary dental and medical care
- Free schooling for children from 4 up to 16 years
- Free annual travel insurance

#### The appointment will be subject to:

- Satisfactory employment references
- Standard Criminal Records Check
- Satisfactory Medical Clearance

**Closing Date: 08 December 2024 Interviews: Week commencing 16 December 2024 (by Skype if off island).**

**For more information, job descriptions, and to apply visit:** <https://www.ascension.gov.ac/lifestyle-and-employment/working-here/>

**If you have any queries about the role, email** [recruitment@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:recruitment@ascension.gov.ac)

# Bertrand's Cottage



Longwood



Bertrand's Cottage was built In 1816 by General Henri Bertrand, a loyal supporter of Napoleon Bonaparte during his exile in St Helena.

Located just across from Longwood House, Bertrand's Cottage was restored in 2017 and is now offered on a short term lease as a bed & breakfast or for other similar tourism or commercial purposes.

## Features:

- Dining room seats 30
- Full commercial kitchen
- Three queen sized en-suite bedrooms
- Full commercial inventory

**Expressions of Interest to be submitted  
by Friday 29 November 2024**

## Contact:

Crown Estates Officer,  
Essex House Jamestown  
+290 22270 |  
[gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:gina.henry@sainthelena.gov.sh)  
| Web

[https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/  
portfolios/treasury-infrastructure-  
and-sustainable-development/](https://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/portfolios/treasury-infrastructure-and-sustainable-development/)

**Available from December 2024**



## INVITATION TO TENDER

### REPLACEMENT OF CRITTALL WINDOWS WITH ALUMINIUM WINDOWS AT ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

SSHA-1860-SHG – Replacement of Crittall Windows with Aluminium Windows at St Paul's Primary School

Copies of the tender document can be obtained from the Procurement Officer, Tiffany Lawrence, Top Floor, Post Office Building, Jamestown by telephone on 25932 or via email through [tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:tiffany.lawrence@sainthelena.gov.sh).

A site visit to view the works will take place on Thursday 21 November 2024 at 10:00, meeting at St Paul's Primary School Car Park.

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

Should you require any further details, please contact the Procurement Officer.

Completed tenders should be placed in the Tender Box located on the Top Floor, Post Office Building by 12:00 on Thursday 05 December 2024, clearly marked with the tender number.

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



Governor's Office  
St Helena, Ascension and  
Tristan da Cunha

### **Member of the Utilities Regulatory Authority**

His Excellency the Governor is looking to appoint a new member of the Utilities Regulatory Authority (URA).

The URA regulates Connect St Helena and has a number of duties that include the setting of tariffs, ensuring improvement in services to consumers and maintaining the long term viability of Connect. The URA is chaired by the Chief Magistrate and has three additional members. Members of the Legislative Council or employees of Connect are not eligible for appointment.

If you think you have the necessary skills and experience to take on this challenging role please send a letter of interest and a CV to [linda.glanville@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:linda.glanville@sainthelena.gov.sh)

Payment is made to members of the URA at the rate of £35 a meeting plus mileage. You could expect to take part in at least 8 meetings a year.

The closing date for applications is **Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2024**.

**Governor's Office, St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha**  
**12<sup>th</sup> November 2024**



# PLANTATION HOUSE CHRISTMAS FAIR

## SUNDAY 8th December 2024

- \* A Fundraising event 1pm to 5pm
- \* Various traditional crafts, confectionary & Christmas stalls
- \* Ice cream van, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies and lots more
  - \* Photo Shoot with Santa...
    - \* Face Painting
    - \* Scavenger Hunt
- \* Colin Peters will provide music to entertain you throughout the afternoon
  - o Hot Food on sale: KJ with various curries
  - o Other Hot Tasty food
  - o The Dook's will serve afternoon teas/coffees and confectionary
  - o Amphibians Bar facilities who will also be selling hot food
  - o You can relax on the lawn with your afternoon tea/Drink

Come & support this fund raising event

**Entrance fee – Adults £1.00, children under 11 years free**

***If you like to book a stall or make any enquiries, please contact***

***Debbie Yon on 24453 or 61883 or email***

***[ph.resmanager@helanta.co.sh](mailto:ph.resmanager@helanta.co.sh)***







## Big Read Story 2: The story of the pencil By Paulo Coelho (Translated by James Mulholland)

"The Story of the Pencil" is more than just a tale; it is a metaphorical guide that encourages introspection and the pursuit of virtues that align with personal development and harmony with the world. Through this story, Coelho invites us to reflect on our own lives, to see ourselves as instruments of creation and change, just like the humble pencil. As we navigate the complexities of life, we are reminded that our journey is not just about the external milestones but about the internal growth and the marks we leave behind.

Coelho's wisdom, as encapsulated in "*The Story of the Pencil*," serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of faith, resilience, correction, inner value, and mindful influence. In the words of Coelho, this story is not just about a pencil but about the person we aspire to be - a person who is always at peace with the world, guided by a higher will, sharpened by life's challenges, corrected by mistakes, valued for their inner essence, and mindful of the impact they leave on the world. **Here is the story-**

### Title- "The story of the pencil"

The little boy was watching his grandfather writing a letter. At a certain moment he asked:

**"Are you writing a story that happened to us?**

And is it by any chance a story about me?"

The grandfather stopped writing, smiled and said to his grandson:

"I'm writing about you, that's true. But the pencil I am using is more important than the words I am writing. I hope you are like it when you grow up." The boy looked at the pencil with curiosity, but did not see anything special about it.

"But it's just like all the other pencils I have ever seen in my life!"

"It all depends on how you look at things.

There are five qualities in it that if you can manage to keep in yourself will make you a person always at peace with the world.

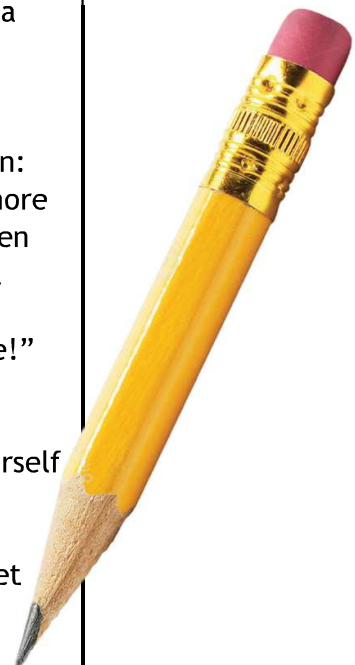
**The first quality:** you can do great things but you must never forget that there is a hand that guides our steps. This hand we call God, and He must always guide it according to His will.

**The second quality:** from time to time I need to stop what I am writing and use a sharpener. This makes the pencil suffer a little, but in the end, it becomes sharper. So, learn how to bear some pains, because they will make you a better person.

**The third quality:** the pencil always lets you use an eraser to rub out what was wrong. Understand that correcting something that we have done is not necessarily bad, but rather something important to keep us on the path of justice.

**The fourth quality:** what really matters in the pencil is not the wood or its outer shape but rather the lead that is inside it. So, always take care of what happens inside you.

**Lastly, the pencil's fifth quality:** it always leaves a mark. In the same way, know that everything you do in life will leave traces, and try to be aware of each and every action."



## COULD WE KEEP SAINT FM ALIVE

### Your Support Can Make the Difference

The imminent closure of Saint FM has deeply impacted the St Helena community, both locally and internationally. The station has been a crucial platform for connecting the St Helena diaspora, but despite the widespread sadness over its closure, little action has been taken to find a sustainable way to keep it running.

A small group of passionate dedicated individuals and I, have been working hard behind the scenes to find a solution. We believe that together, with a new business model, we can preserve this vital service. This might be our last chance to maintain a valuable source of freedom and connection for the St Helena community.

### The Current Situation

There has been some confusion around Saint FM's closure. Although an immediate shutdown was announced, the station is still streaming due to the overwhelming public interest in keeping it alive. Earlier this week, I submitted a thought-out proposal to Vince Thompson, the current custodian of the station. We are negotiating terms to keep Saint FM operational at least through Christmas and New Year, until the end of January. We know this is a significant challenge, but our goal is to explore every possible solution.

### We Need Your Help

To move forward, we need the support of the community. We have reached out to confirm the commitment of all voluntary presenters. If you have not yet been contacted and wish to help—whether as a presenter or in another capacity—please get in touch. We are also looking at the possibility of remote volunteers, so you don't have to be on the Island to participate and also you don't have to be a presenter to fulfil this role.

We are starting from scratch with no financial reserves, "We don't have a money pot we have no pot" so the support of the public and Saint FM listeners is crucial.

To give you a warm, fuzzy feeling in how we go forward here are some key points from our proposal that has been agreed to provide reassurance:

- **Operational Control:** The new, volunteer team will provide a reduced level of operational support throughout this period and it is essential that everyone understands that all helpers are purely voluntary. Therefore, the community can expect changes and variations from the previous service while only major decisions will involve the current owner.
- **Financial Management:** We will manage all revenue and cover all expenses for the next two months, focusing solely on keeping the station running with focus on future planning.
- **Dedicated Accounts:** We will set up a new bank account for this project to ensure clear and transparent financial management.
- **Funding Usage:** All new funds raised will go towards maintaining and enhancing the station's services, not settling existing debts.
- **Voluntary Presenters:** All presenters will be contributing on a voluntary basis.

### What's Next?

We are waiting for more replies from voluntary presenters and gathering information on the monthly running costs. Once we have this, we will strategize on public funding and seek input on ideas for keeping the station alive. We also want to set realistic expectations—our operating model will initially change due to financial constraints. Only essential paid services will be considered, and even these will depend on available funding. Final technical checks for seamless operation and an element of automation will be implemented allowing enhancement of content to help manage the station output.

### Join Us in This Effort

This temporary plan is just the beginning. We aim to secure funding, develop long-term strategies, and engage the community to ensure a seamless transition. By doing so, we hope to maintain Saint FM's vital role in connecting St Helena. During this time, we also aim to build a strong reputation and explore new revenue streams through advertising and listenership. Initially we will be launching a GoFundME appeal to help with funding the operation in the very short term.

With your support, we could be back sooner than expected. This is not just about keeping a radio station alive; it's about sustaining a vital part of our community. Together, we can create "Saint FM Community Radio," powered by the people and for the people. Let's keep Saint FM alive. Your involvement and support can make all the difference!

Contact us to get involved and share your ideas -

Johnny Clingham email [johnny@saint.fm](mailto:johnny@saint.fm) - We look forward to hearing from you.





# Who Runs the Ferry Service from Saturday

Mr Jonathan Herne of the Enchanted Isle who has been running the ferry service contract for the last 9 years will finally come to an end on Friday 14th November, with the new contractor due to take over from Saturday 15th. It has been confirmed that Kyle Yon, the son of Keith, will take over the contract from Saturday morning. Despite losing the Ferry Service contract, Mr Herne informed us that Enchanted Isle which has been out of service for a while is now up and running, offering boat trips, whale watching, fishing trips, booze cruises, etc.



**The Enchanted Isle – open for business**



## NOVEMBER OPENING HOURS



**Main Branch\***

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

**Airport Kiosk**

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Flight days only | 10:30 - 14:30 |
|------------------|---------------|

**Remote Banking**

|                          |                           |               |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| HTH Supermarket          | Monday,<br>25 November    | 09:30 - 13:00 |
| Longwood Enterprise Park | Wednesday,<br>27 November | 09:30 - 14:00 |

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



### Bank of St. Helena Ltd.



 [info@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:info@sainthelenabank.com)

 [www.sainthelenabank.com](http://www.sainthelenabank.com)

 @sainthelenabank

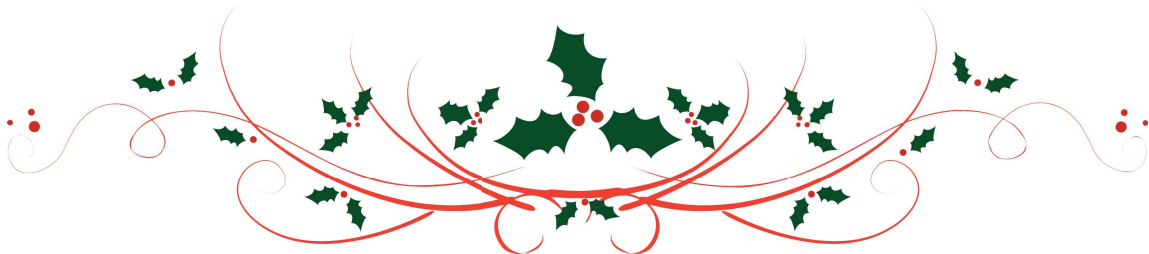
 +290 22390

 Market Street, Jamestown

 Bank of St Helena Ltd

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

## Christmas Festivities 2024



**The calendar is getting full with preparations for the upcoming school Nativity plays, Carol singing, and the ever popular Festival of Lights.**

**Plans are also being made for our traditional Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve celebrations with further details to follow.**

**There is no set theme so it's a traditional St Helena style Christmas this year.**

**If you have any photos from past Christmas Eve, Boxing Day and New Year's Eve celebrations please get in touch on tel no 66352 or facebook Leigh Richards New.**



St. Helena Cricket Association

## Martin Joshua Wins Cricket Raffle Cape Town Flight

Team St Helena Cricket announced, For the past 3 month we have been running two raffles as a fund-raising effort to support the operations of the Association both locally and abroad. The main raffle of the flight, was drawn on Friday morning on SAMS Radio One with host Luke Bennett.



Martin, speaking about his win, said he was overwhelmed... Although he had bantered with his staff about him winning the Star Prize, it still was a very pleasant surprise when his name was drawn as the winner. “Thank you so much” said Martin, and I wish the team well in the tournament later this month”. Martin will now be able to use his prize in the next 12

months.

St Helena’s cricket team fly to Nigeria at the weekend to take part in the T20 World Cup sub-regional qualifier. The finals for this T20 will take place in 2026. Like martin Joshua and many others in St Helena, the Independent wish our cricket team every success and good luck with the weather. St Helena Cricket’s last sub-regional qualifier in Rwanda was adversely affected by games called off or shortened because of rain.

St Helena is not ranked in the international cricket T20 table due to not playing enough international games. The T20 Sub-Regional Qualifier starts on 23rd November. St Helena play on the opening day against Nigeria, the highest ranked team in their sub-qualifier group. St Helena faced Botswana in the 2022 sub-qualifier in Rwanda. On that occasion the result was Botswana 165 for 2 after 20 overs – St Helena 106 all out after 19.1 overs. St Helena could be in with a chance against Ivory Coast and Eswatini and a win against Sierra leone would be a triumph.

| Date          | Against      | Opponent Ranking |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| 23rd November | Nigeria      | 36               |
| 24th November | Ivory Coast  | Not Ranked       |
| 26th November | Sierra Leone | 69               |
| 27th November | Botswana     | 50               |
| 28th November | Eswatini     | 82               |



# Michael Thorpe Guilty

**Continued from PAGE 2...**

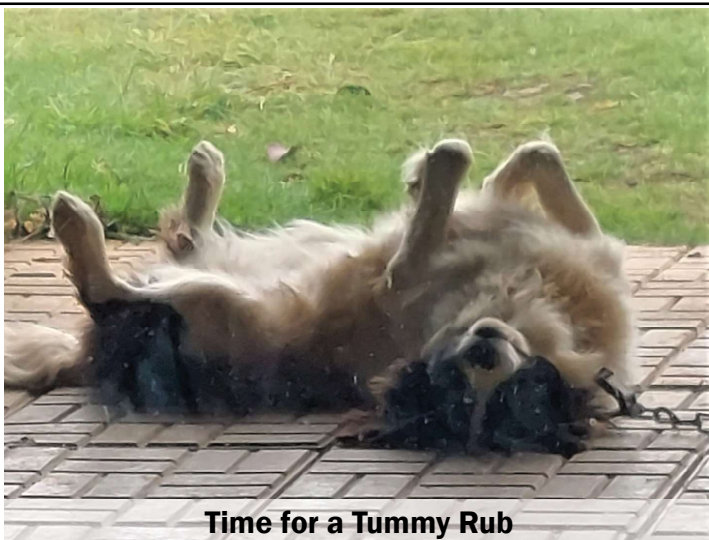
shooting this dog that furthered the stated aim of protection of the fish.”

The Chief Magistrate concluded, “It follows on from this that we cannot find, on the evidence of the facts of the case, that Mr Thorpe genuinely believed that the means of protection of his fish was reasonable having regard to all the circumstances. No other potential lawful excuse exists on the facts of this case. The Crown have discharged their burden to the requisite standard. In coming to this conclusion, we draw no inference from silence at court (Michael Thorpe did not give evidence) and make every allowance we can for the defendant’s good character.

## Sentient Animal, not Vermin

We find, so that we are sure, that the firearm was not used for vermin control in that it was used in such a way that did not protect the fish he had a right to protect. The court returns guilty verdicts both offences before it.”

In a previous ruling, made on 29th September, the Chief Magistrate recounted events from the date Michael Thorpe shot Pepper the dog. This Ruling was required in response to an application by the defence to have consideration of certain police interviews with Michael Thorpe excluded as evidence and from consideration. This court case dates back to 23rd June this year when a dog named Pepper was reported to the police as missing from her home in Kunjie Field. Police were told that it was suspected that the defendant had shot the dog. On the 3rd of July 2024 PC Oliphant conducted a voluntary interview under caution with Mr Thorpe at his home address. Mr Thorpe was told at the start of the interview that it was going to be recorded on the officer’s body worn camera. He was told that he was entitled to free and independent legal advice should he wish to have such. Subsequent police interviews followed. In a police interview Mr Thorpe said that the dog was in his fishpond, after his Koi so he went down and shot it. He said the dog was half drowned anyway. He said the dog would not have been able to get out of the



**Time for a Tummy Rub**

fishpond and he shot it twice with a .22 rifle. Mr Thorpe also said he did not notify the owner of the dog that he had shot it as it had no name tag and he did not know who it belonged to. Mr Thorpe said he has other animals on the land including calves and that a dog can be destructive. Mr Thorpe was subsequently advised that in such circumstances the police should be advised so the owner can be traced.

On 5th July, Inspector Coombe, Sergeant Williams and PC Henry attended Mr Thorpe’s address. Mr Thorpe was asked to, and did, show the officers where he had buried the dog he shot. The dog was dug up and examined by the vet who confirmed that the dog had been shot to the head, that the dog would have been killed instantly and that the microchip in the dog identified it as Pepper, the missing dog. Further police interviews with Mr Thorpe followed. Michael Thorpe was told by police that it is possible that offences could have been committed. Mr Thorpe was also advised that he could have representation and after initially refusing it he changed his mind and Emily Cairns-Wicks represented Mr Thorpe in interview. In a further police interview, which was recorded and lasted one hour and 24 minutes the police go over the same ground repeatedly. The Chief Magistrate’s ruling observed, “It is clear that Mr Thorpe gets upset at this conduct and says at one stage, “I’m gonna call this now because I’m getting angry you keep on going over the same thing, I don’t know what your angling at but just come straight out and ask me. Come, come, come to the point.” And also, “Yeah but now it’s starting to piss me off, ask me the question you want the answer to. You keep going over and over and I’ve already told you.”

**Continues on BACK PAGE...**

# Michael Thorpe Guilty

In his Ruling, Duncan Cooke also records, “The officer repeats on numerous occasions that he has an interview plan to get through and Mr Thorpe says on a number of occasions that the officer is repeating what he said and Miss Cairns-Wicks asserts that PS Williams is not asking questions. On this point the Chief Magistrate’s Ruling states, “We have a lot of sympathy with Mr Thorpe and Miss Cairns-Wicks. This was an interview that went over the same ground time and again for no good reason and that went on for far too long. If PS Williams had an interview plan, then it is difficult to discern what that might have been. No discrepancies from earlier accounts were put to Mr Thorpe for him to comment on. We are very concerned that PC Rummery was stopped from explaining what was being investigated and that Mr Thorpe was told that he could not know what he said earlier. No discrepancies or fresh evidence were put to Mr Thorpe to justify a second interview. Having said that the first interview was very short and PC Oliphant did not go into any details. In the second interview some limited additional information was provided by Mr Thorpe over and above that from the first interview.” Some aspects of the case against Michael Thorpe were tested on legal technicalities rather than disputes of the facts in the case. In relation to these technicalities, Duncan Cooke Ruled: - “We cannot agree with the defence that it is beholden on the police to outline what particular offence is being investigated so long as the defendant is aware that this is an investigation into potential criminal offences arising out of a particular set of circumstances. The police were at the investigatory phase and part of that investigation into whether offences have been committed involves asking Mr Thorpe as to what were the circumstances that existed at the time the dog was shot. He was warned that if the matter went to court that the interview could be used, and the consequences of not mentioning facts later relied upon. This is sufficient for him to know it was a criminal investigation into his shooting of the dog.”

## Defendant Treated Same as Any Other Suspect

The Chief Magistrate continued, “It follows that in this case we do not find that Mr Thorpe was

treated any differently than a suspect would have been treated in England. If the defence are seeking as a matter of principle to establish that the Constitution requires a strict adherence to the terms of the English Code then that is a matter to be heard in the Supreme Court.

In this case only Mr Thorpe knew the facts of what occurred and the police were asking the one person who knew what happened to Pepper. He was told he did not have to answer questions but he chose to do so. On the complaint that Mr Thorpe should have been told of a specific offence the police were investigating we do not, for the reasons already given, find that this is required under St Helena law.

Given that Mr Thorpe had been advised the day before that he would not be under arrest and that the interview was voluntary we cannot in these circumstances find that Mr Thorpe was unaware of his rights to decline to take part in the interview.”

In conclusion the Chief Magistrate Ruled, “we do not find that the admission of this new information from Mr Thorpe would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court should not admit it. We therefore allow the second interview but only insofar as it relates to additional information provided by Mr Thorpe over and above the first interview.”



**Proud Pepper with Puppies**  
Pepper had nine pups, when Pepper was shot, they were five weeks old.