



**ISLAND GOVERNMENT (ASCENSION) ORDINANCE, 2008**

**DISSOLUTION OF ISLAND COUNCIL AND  
NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS it is provided by section 22(1) of the Island Government (Ascension) Ordinance, 2008, that the Governor may, acting in his discretion, dissolve the Council at any time;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 22(2) of that Ordinance that every dissolution of the Council must be by notice given under the hand of the Governor and the public seal;

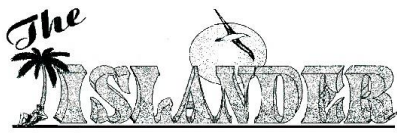
NOW THEREFORE, I, Gregory Gibson, Governor of Ascension, do hereby give notice that the Island Council will dissolve with effect from Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022;

AND WHEREAS it is further provided in section 23 of that Ordinance, that a General Election must be held not less than 14 days, nor more than 30 days, after every dissolution of the Council, on such date as the Governor appoints;

I THEREFORE give notice that the General Election is to be held on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022. I further give notice that the date by which nominations must be received by the Returning Officer at the Administration Office in Georgetown is Wednesday, 07<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

Given under my hand and the official seal this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022.

Gregory Gibson  
Governor of Ascension



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**Deadline: 6:00 pm Mondays**

**Internet Editor: Kerry**

**Printer: Elaine**

The Islander post-box is situated on the downstairs  
veranda of the new AIG Offices (Islander Building).

Deadline for all contributions is  
6:00pm on a Monday

Please submit copy on disk/disc or via e-mail.

**Max size for email is 1MB**

**Next Editions Editors: Helen**  
**Printers: Helen**

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THE ISLANDER**

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**IF NO SIZE SPECIFIED- SIZE WILL BE AT  
EDITORS DISCRETION**



**Happy Birthday Pete / Bernard!!**

## *Editor's Note*

It's been an exciting weekend in the UK. The Lionesses of England Football won the Euro 2022 UEFA trophy. Great stuff Ladies!! ☺

On Island we anticipate the dissolution of the Island Council and look forward to the upcoming elections.

Don't forget to get on the register so that you can vote!!

Stay safe, enjoy the read and the rest of the week!



### **EASY BIG FAT YEAST ROLLS**

This easy yeast roll recipe was given to me by my Great, Great Grandmother. I used it a couple of years ago in our state fair and received first place. I loved this recipe. Still, I made a few adjustments. Along with the 2T of shortening I added 2T butter. I also increased the sugar to 1/2c and the flour to 2 1/2c. Absolutely wonderful! I ate 3 as soon as they came out. A really great recipe.. I ended up spooning them out on a small, round cake pan (all smushed together with sides touching) and they still came out great!

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 c water, warm
- 1 pkg active dry yeast
- 1/4 c sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- 3 Tbsp butter, softened
- 1 lg egg, beaten
- 3 1/2 - 4 c all-purpose flour

#### **Directions:**

1. Pre-heat oven 350 degrees. Put water and yeast in large mixing bowl and add next 4 ingredients. Beat with dough hook until well blended.
2. Add 3 1/2 to 4 cups flour and mix until soft dough forms (should not be sticky)
3. Put out onto floured board and knead a few times until smooth.
4. Place in greased bowl, cover with plastic wrap and let rise in warm place for approximately 45 minutes.
5. Punch down and turn out onto floured board.
6. Shape into 12 rolls and place in greased 13x9 inch baking pan. Let rise again about 30 minutes.
7. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.
8. Brush tops of rolls with butter (or equivalent).

**Enjoy!**



# The St. Helena Government Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY

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Gregory Gibson  
Governor of Ascension





## **Preparation for general election on 22 September 2022**

### **Updates to current Electoral Register**

In anticipation of the general election on Thursday 22 September, there will be an opportunity for amendments [additions, deletions or changes of address] to be made to the current Electoral Register [1 Nov 2021 – 31 Oct 2022] over the next five weeks.

In order to stand for election or to vote in the general election your name must be on the current Electoral Register. Copies of the current Electoral Register can be viewed at the following locations:

- on the official noticeboard at the AIG Administration Building;
- on the Two Boats Club noticeboard;
- at the Administrator's Office.
- at the NAAFI
- at the USAF Base Library

You are **eligible to vote** in the general election if:

- You are over 18 years of age;
- You have been resident on Ascension Island for a period of at least 6 months immediately before the date of compilation of the Electoral Register [31 August 2022]; and
- You are not exempt from paying income tax on Ascension Island under the Income Tax Ordinance CAP A7.

You are **eligible to stand** for election as a councillor if:

- You are eligible to vote in the election for which you are nominated;
- You are 21 years of age or over; and
- You are a British citizen, British Overseas citizen or British Overseas Territory citizen.

Any requests for amendments must be made in writing by **16:30 on Wednesday 31 August 2022** to the Assistant Registration Officer, Siobhan Stewart, via email through [siobhan.stewart@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:siobhan.stewart@ascension.gov.ac)

Office of the Administrator  
26 July 2022



# Quarantine of Arrivals Ended

**COVID-19 regulations and Response Levels removed with new protocols now in place**

On Sunday 31 July, the requirement for travellers to quarantine on arrival at Ascension was removed. This means that all arrivals can now mix freely with the public. It can therefore be expected that the island will shortly begin to register cases of COVID-19 in the community.

As such, the island has begun its transition from a state of working to keep COVID-19 out of the community, to managing it as a community infection much like other common viruses.

To ensure that members of the public are prepared for these changes, new guidance has been issued to help explain what now will, and will not, be expected of everyone. The guidance is available through the AIG website via [www.ascension.gov.ac/public-document/living-with-COVID-19](http://www.ascension.gov.ac/public-document/living-with-COVID-19), as well as through your employer.

As quarantine is no longer required for arrivals, the Public Health (Coronavirus)(Temporary Provisions) Regulations 2022 have now been repealed. The COVID-19 Response Level Protocol is also now no longer in effect. This means that when a positive case is registered there will be no escalation in response level and therefore no wider public health measures, beyond what is advised in the new guidance, will be put into effect.

The guidance provides information on what you can do to help slow the spread of the virus, what to do if you think you have COVID-19 and what is expected of you if you test positive.

## **What are the symptoms of COVID-19?**

For those that are vaccinated, COVID-19 will often be only a mild illness and some may not experience any symptoms at all. However, others will have more noticeable symptoms and may feel unwell for several days.

Signs of infection to look out for are:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
- a sore throat
- diarrhoea or vomiting
- muscle aches and pains

## **What do I need to do if I feel unwell and think I might have COVID-19?**

If you feel unwell and think you have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection, you should arrange to get tested at one of the military medical facilities or at Georgetown Hospital.

The process to be followed is:



Given Ascension's extremely high-levels of vaccination, the removal of quarantine is likely to be initially disruptive at a community level rather than pose a significant risk to most individuals. To try and slow the spread of the virus through the community, anyone that tests positive will therefore be expected to self-isolate for at least five days.

Even if you initially test negative but feel too unwell to work, you should isolate for 48 hours and then get re-tested if you still feel unwell.

If after five days following a positive test you feel well again, you can end your period of self-isolation. You should however consider still wearing a mask and practise good hand hygiene for several days afterwards.

If after five days you are still feeling unwell due to symptoms of COVID-19 infection, you should take a lateral flow test (LFT). You should repeat this every 48 hours if you continue to test positive. You can end your isolation at any point during this time if you test negative, feel well, are no longer symptomatic or reach day 10 of your period of self-isolation.

### **What happens now?**

You may want to consider taking some relatively easy and effective actions to protect yourself and others around you. You can:

- Wear a mask in public spaces
- Continue to maintain good hygiene practices (e.g. washing your hands regularly, sneezing into the crook of your arm, etc.)
- Keep windows open when in a room with others
- Stay at home if you have flu-like symptoms or test positive for COVID-19
- Consider not attending events where you know there will be a lot of people if you are feeling unwell

The public will be advised when the first case of COVID-19 is registered in the community and AIG will seek to provide weekly figures for the number of positive cases identified as the territory moves through this transition phase.

Further information and guidance on other issues related to the changes is available through Georgetown Hospital or your employer.

Georgetown Hospital  
01 August 2022

### **Further Questions**

#### **How do I go about arranging a test if I think I might have COVID-19?**

If you have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection then you should arrange to take a test as soon as possible. Where you get tested will be based on where you live and who your employer is.

If you live on one of the military bases testing will need to be arranged through your base medical centre. RAF base staff should telephone 66310 and USAF base staff should telephone 62224. Anyone that does not live on a military base will need to arrange testing through Georgetown Hospital on 66252.

#### **What happens if I test positive?**

If you test positive you will be advised to self-isolate, given several home test kits and provided with an information pack to take away with you. The pack will include advice on how to monitor your own health, what is expected of you whilst you isolate and what process to follow to end your isolation. You should also refer to the guidance available on the AIG website at [www.ascension.gov.ac/public-document/living-with-COVID-19](http://www.ascension.gov.ac/public-document/living-with-COVID-19).

#### **Given other people might be positive but not yet identified, should I be going to work?**

Although the risk posed by COVID-19 to vaccinated adults is low, employers want to ensure that large numbers of their employees do not catch COVID-19 at once and need to isolate, given this would significantly disrupt each organisation's ability to continue operating.

Employers will therefore be implementing their own adaptations to working environments when quarantine requirements are removed. You should speak to your employer now to understand what these are likely to look like, and how your daily activities are likely to change.

#### **Someone in my household / accommodation has tested positive, should I isolate?**

Only those who test positive themselves, or who are unwell, are expected to isolate. If someone in your household or accommodation has tested positive, you can take some reasonable steps to help prevent you catching COVID-19.

This can include ventilating the property with open windows and doors, masking indoors when and regularly washing your hands. If you begin to show signs of COVID-19 infection yourself then, in line with guidance, you should seek a test from Georgetown Hospital or one of the military base medical centres.

#### **My employer says I'm a critical worker so I might be able to come to work despite testing positive?**

As a small working island it is vital that critical services and business functions continue to operate during the initial transition period. As such, if workers who deliver critical functions test positive but are otherwise well enough to work, their employer may request that they come to work and continue working. This will be done in a risk assessed way to help minimise the chance that they pass on COVID-19 to others.



Nature notes is a monthly instalment to the Islander bringing you information and updates about the natural world on Ascension Island. In this month's notes is the Masked Booby.

### **Masked Booby** – *Sula dactylatra*

Length: 81-92cm Wingspan: 152cm

Masked boobies are found in the tropics across the world. In Ascension, masked boobies nest on Boatswainbird Island, offshore stacks, Letterbox Nature Reserve (NR) and the surrounding area. Their distribution is expanding each year and now small pioneer colonies can be found at the top of White Horse Hill and down to Crater Cliff.

Masked boobies first nested on the Letterbox Nature Reserve in 2004 after the feral cats were removed from the area. In the 2021-2022 nesting season, there was 2497 nesting attempts on the Letterbox peninsula. Unfortunately the poor weather and heavy rains has resulted in a poor productivity (i.e. the number of chicks which fledge per nest) for this species.

Masked boobies are territorial, performing aggressive displays to defend their nest. Each pair engages in courtship and greeting displays to reinforce their bond. The male generates a quiet whistle while the females grunt a loud honk.

Masked boobies lay 1-2 chalky white eggs in a shallow depression on the ground. These nests are often characterised by a circle of guano left by the birds during their incubation. Both parents take it in turns to incubate the egg for 39-48 days. The second chick typically does not survive and is often killed by the stronger sibling. The chicks require plenty of care and food, fledging after 120 days.

Masked boobies feed primarily during daylight hours. They use their excellent eyesight to spot fish and squid swimming around the sea surface. They then dive head first into the water, sometimes from as high as 30m, swallowing their prey underwater. To cushion the shock of hitting the water at speed, masked boobies have air pockets surrounding their eyes and brain to protect them from the impact. Like many of Ascension's seabirds, the masked booby benefits from the presence of large predatory fish such as tuna which drive prey to the surface and facilitate predation by boobies.

Masked boobies remain fairly faithful to the island in terms of their flight range, however ringing recoveries have been seen from chicks ringed in St Helena. GPS tracking of juvenile masked boobies in 2021 showed they remained within several hundred miles of the island, highlighting the importance of the Marine Protected Area (MPA) for this species.



Conservation and Fisheries Directorate  
28 July 2022





Met Office Ascension Island Base

## The Met Office Weather Report

Statistics for the week ending Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022

	Max (Celsius)	Min (Celsius)	Rainfall
AIRHEAD	27.9	21.3	4.8
TRAVELLERS	n/a	20.4	7.9
RESIDENCY	n/a	18.2	17.7
GEORGETOWN	n/a	n/a	n/a
ST. HELENA	20.3	13.2	14.2
FALKLANDS	7.9	-2.3	0.0
UK (Brize Norton)	26.5	10.1	2.4

## Tide Times & Georgetown Pierhead/English Bay Swell Outlook

For more detailed information, including swimming and swell warnings, please contact the Met Office on Ext. 63317

Day	Swell (m)	High Tide		Low Tide		Sunrise	Sunset
<b>Wed 03 Aug</b>	1.6	09:25	21:49	03:01	15:51	07:10	18:57
<b>Thu 04 Aug</b>	1.3	10:10	22:44	03:45	16:40	07:10	18:57
<b>Fri 05 Aug</b>	1.3	11:06	23:53	04:41	17:41	07:09	18:57
<b>Sat 06 Aug</b>	1.8	--:--	12:18	05:53	18:54	07:09	18:57
<b>Sun 07 Aug</b>	1.7	01:15	13:39	07:22	20:09	07:09	18:57
<b>Mon 08 Aug</b>	1.4	02:34	14:58	08:47	21:17	07:09	18:57
<b>Tue 09 Aug</b>	1.2	03:40	16:04	09:57	22:14	07:09	18:57

# VOLUNTEER

WITH THE GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK TEAM

## When:

First Sunday of  
every month

## Meet:

Sports track at  
the bottom of  
green mountain

## Time:

09:30 12:30

## Food:

Free plo  
provided at  
12:30

## Transport:

Provided from  
sports track

Wear suitable footwear and clothes you don't mind getting dirty.  
Bring snacks and plenty of water.

For more information contact: No. 66359  
Email [conservationenquiries@ascension.gov.ac](mailto:conservationenquiries@ascension.gov.ac)



**Public Service Announcement**

**COVID-19 Restricted Access to BBC ARS**

**From 31<sup>st</sup> July until 30<sup>th</sup> September**, Encompass would like to politely request that any external visitors to the Power Station or Transmitter Site please call ahead and make an appointment.

Telephone numbers:     66800 ext    100/102 (Admin)  
   108 (TX Senior Engineer)  
   202 (PS Senior Engineer)  
   200 (Out of Hours)

We will be limiting access to the Power Station control room throughout this period to reduce the exposure to our Operations team.

Your understanding is very much appreciated.



# Silent Auction

## 2007 Landrover Freelander 2



**2.2 Diesel TD4 XS Automatic**

**Selectable 4x4 Off-road programmes**

**85,000 miles**

**$\frac{1}{2}$  leather/fabric seats**

**Alpine stereo & subwoofer**

**This model has NO DPF to worry about!**

**MOT & Tax 18th August 2023**

**Last full service Nov 21** with new rear shocks, brake pads all round, oil & filters, crank shaft sensor. Recent new exhaust, catalytic converter & battery. 4 good tyres with plenty of tread. A/C not currently working. Some headlining debonded (but resecured), some minor body scratches, some salt water staining to seat fabric (from dive trips).

**Comes with** spare oil & cabin filters, oil filter wrench, spare crank shaft sensor, spare tinted window film. Owners Manual and memory stick PDF of L/R workshop Manual



**Sealed bids to Bungalow 226 by 12:00 noon, Sunday 14th AUGUST,**  
**If payment / proof of funds not received by 22nd August the car will be**  
**offered to next highest bidder.**

**Collection and transfer of ownership 11th Sept.**

**Please note there is a reserve of £6000**

**Viewing available Friday 5th & 12th August between 5pm & 6pm**



### Twenty Questions with Dr Bill Hardy

Twenty questions is a light hearted look into the favourite things of people around Ascension. This week Senior Medical Officer Dr Bill Hardy has kindly agreed to answer my questions.

Where did you grow up as a child?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>I was raised (not very successfully!) in a small mining town outside of Johannesburg in SA; then moved to JHB to study...</i>
What languages can you speak?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>English, Afrikaans, tiny bit of French; smattering of Zulu...and with Google translate...any language you like! Mira - esta soy yo hablando español!</i>
How many Countries have you visited?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Hmmm...UK (including Scotland, which might soon count as an extra country!); France, Namibia, Ghana, New Zealand, ...does a stopover in Sydney count?...thought not... and Ascension!</i>
What is the best place you have visited in the world?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Oh dear...NZ to be honest...simply because my grandson lives there!</i>
Where in the world would you like to visit?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Would love to tour northern Italy and central Europe...and dive in the Caribbean!</i>
How long have you been on Ascension?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>I came here in 2010 for a one-year sabbatical...so be warned!</i>
What is your favourite place on Ascension?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>The ocean...and Green Mountain of course...and Two Boats Club for breakfast!</i>
What is your favourite thing to do in your spare time on Ascension?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Do I have to be honest about this? Diving of course...then tinkering with my computer...</i>
What sports team do you support?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>You have to ask? The Springboks; then Wales,...just because...have you heard them sing the anthem? Look you...Brrrrr...also – the All Blacks when they're not playing us! I better mention England too...see "All Blacks".</i>
What is your favourite movie?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Oh dear...so many...Saving Private Ryan (except for the bit in the middle...)...have you seen Ferris Buellers' Day Off – a gem!</i>
What is your favourite TV series?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Survivor!</i>
What is your favourite book?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>I read, on average, book a week...but anything by Max Hastings – very boring!</i>
What is your favourite meal?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>On Ascension? Otherwise most Pasta dishes...truthfully lamb chops and fries! But I never touch those!</i>
What is your favourite drink?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Tea...of course!</i>
What is your favourite piece of music or song?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Anything by Selah...</i>
If you could meet one famous person, who would it be?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Her Majesty would be terrifying! Also Obama!</i>
What is your favourite car?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>I used to have a VW Golf 5...loved that one...but who wouldn't want a shiny Mercedes? (with apologies to Janice Joplin...)</i>
Have you ever flown a plane, bungee jumped, parachute jumped or scuba dived?	<b>Answer:</b> <i>Aha!! I have flown a plane (Cherokee 140 on weekends) and I do Scuba!!Not sure about</i>

***the other two....***

Can you play any musical instruments?

***Answer: Sadly no...I brought a guitar to Ascension in 2010...still sitting in my cupboard...but that's on the bucket list!***

What one thing can you tell us about yourself that may surprise people?

**Answer: I'm double jointed! ...and I do talk to myself aloud when alone...must have had an unhappy childhood...drives my wife crazy!**

If you want to be featured in 20 questions, please drop me a line via the Islander email address at [islander@atlantis.co.ac](mailto:islander@atlantis.co.ac)

**Lorna Mills**



## AIG Stores Opening Hours

The public are advised that the AIG Stores will reopen as normal with effect from Monday 01 August 2022.

These operating hours are below.

Monday	08:00 – 12:30 13:30 – 15:00
Tuesday	08:00 – 12:30 13:30 – 15:00
Wednesday	08:00 – 12:30 13:30 – 15:00
Thursday	08:00 – 12:30
Friday	08:00 – 12:30 13:30 – 15:00
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED

Resources Directorate  
01 August 2022



# ST HELENA PAY IS NOW AVAILABLE ON ASCENSION ISLAND!

What does this mean? You will be able to pay for your goods and services using Bank of St Helena's Local Debit Card at all locations offering the service:

- The Post Office
- SURE South Atlantic Ltd
- Chandlery Mini-Market
- JAMS

**Apply for your Local Debit Card today!**

Apply online at

**[www.sainthelenabank.com/local-debit-card](http://www.sainthelenabank.com/local-debit-card)**

*Applicants are advised Cards will be printed at the St Helena Branch and will be posted via the next available Airlink Flight or MV Helena.*

*Businesses interested in offering St Helena Pay can contact us on [customerservices@sainthelenabank.com](mailto:customerservices@sainthelenabank.com)*