

ANTIGUA ECHO

THE LIGHTER
SIDE OF LIFE



The Nation mourns the passing of former Senator Mary Clare Hurst

ISSUE 2026:07

DOCKYARD DAY



With Antigua Sailing Week wrapped up, Nelson's Dockyard swapped racing for revelry, drawing people from across the island for a day that's less about competition & more about connection. There was plenty of action—kayaks, greasy pole glory, a spirited tug-of-war—but the real highlight came as the marching band beat the retreat, the whole dockyard falling into step, The Royal A&B police force gave a general salute & the ceremonial lowering of the flag. As the national anthem faded, people lingered—together—closing the sailing season in true Antiguan style. [Read more here.](#)



NOAH'S ARK



An amazing discovery in eastern Turkey is reigniting one of history's most important mysteries, as researchers say a boat-shaped formation reflects features described in the story of Noah. Using ground-penetrating radar at the Durupinar Formation, scientists have identified what appear to be tunnels and a hollow chamber beneath the surface. Located near Mount Ararat, long associated with the Ark, the findings offer fresh intrigue—inviting not only scientific curiosity, but also a quiet reminder for believers of faith, perseverance, and God's enduring promises.

WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH



A&B is doing its bit to reduce plastic, but elsewhere plastic sometimes seems as abundant as sunshine. Now, help is on the way. A new call for proposals under the "Closing the Caribbean Plastic Tap" initiative is inviting communities and small businesses across the Eastern Caribbean—including Antigua and Barbuda—to turn bright ideas into practical solutions. With grants on offer, the programme backs everything from cutting waste at the source to clever reuse & recycling. It may not make plastic disappear overnight, but it's a welcome nudge toward cleaner coastlines—and proof that small, local action can make a big difference.

DOCKWATCH



Few yachts remain in the harbour now. The last "superyacht" isn't really a superyacht at all, but the world's largest toybox: Hodor, a 217-foot support vessel crammed with a submarine, helicopter, jet skis, quay bikes, every essential comfort for a day afloat (sorry, you don't have a floating toybox? Where do you keep your submarine?). With annual running costs of \$3–5 million, it's merely the satellite—an expensive one—to the real star, the mothership Lonian.

BACKPAGE GOSSIP

ISSUE 2026:07

RUMOUR HAS IT

That the most effective in-flight calming device isn't seatback entertainment at all, but an eight-year-old boy with a football chat and a steady supply of Dance Monkey. On a Jet2 flight from Turkey to Manchester, disruption from an intoxicated passenger threatened a diversion—until young Phoenix Rose, travelling with his father James, quietly stepped in. Instead of escalation, he offered distraction: singing, conversation, even questions about her children, holding the situation steady for three-and-a-half hours. As one observer put it, it was “maturity far beyond his years”—and possibly the best inflight service upgrade yet. It takes a child to teach an adult how to behave!



RUMOUR HAS IT



That Antigua sailors rule the seas—and this week, they proved it. Jules Mitchell and his young crew on Warthog powered to second in the Classics, while Paul Jensen's Danish Blue sailed off with top honours. From the Classic Regatta to ASW and the new Antigua Racing Cup, the red, black and blue flew proudly—no surprise, perhaps, when so much of that talent starts life at the AYC. Back ashore on the AYC lawn, it was party time, celebrating Young Sailor and Sportsman of the Year, Shanoy Malone and Emily Gaillard.

RUMOUR HAS IT

That some people are so desperate for a bathroom break that they need 26 toilets! Affordable Homes Antigua says 26 toilets — yes, 26 — along with other building materials vanished from a site container last week, leaving the team “feeling emotional” and grappling with a serious and baffling setback. So if offers you a spare toilet - you know whose it is!



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BACKPAGE GOSSIP

ISSUE 2026:07

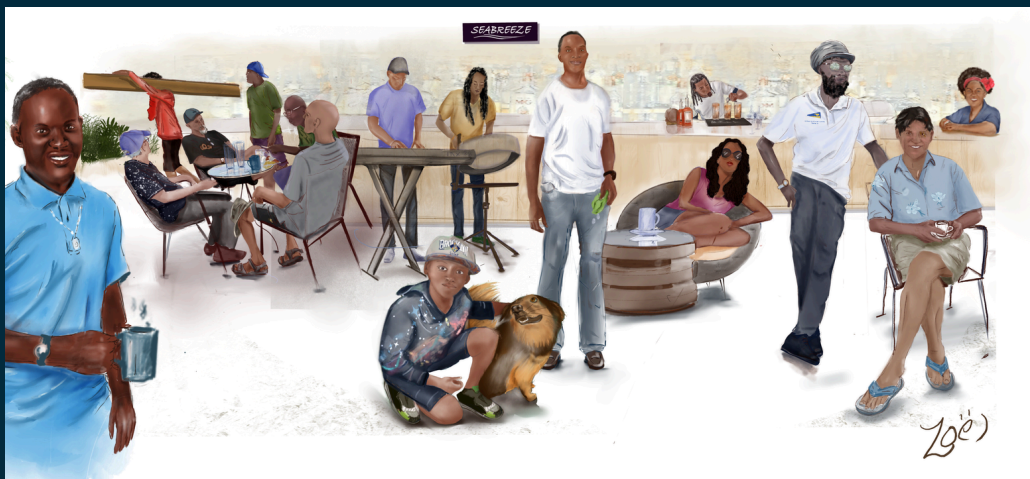
GO DADLIACES



ANTIGUA'S GOT MUSIC



JOIN THE FUN



When the yachts slip beyond the horizon, English Harbour still hums with life—our community, our rhythm—come and be part of it at the Super Yacht Marina.