

WORKING IN THE EOC



A Volunteer's take on EOC operations

It is not often that staff members are mandated or asked to volunteer their services. In the case, however, of the National Works Agency's Emergency Operating Center (EOC), it is a regular occurrence when the country is put on alert. The EOC in those times become the nerve centre of all operations and response. As the entity responsible for Jamaica's main road network and a crucial first responder, it is the Agency's responsibility to ensure that all issues that have an adverse impact of the island's road network be recorded, resolved and publicized.

Before, during and after the passage of first category 5 hurricane to hit island – Hurricane Melissa, 34 members of staff were called upon to work in the EOC. There were nine volunteers. The group was comprised of managers, technical officers and ancillary staff. Even Kitchen Staff, who ordinarily are not members of Team NWA were on board.

Working in the center itself essentially involved taking telephone calls from affected residents or Whatsapp text/calls from NWA personnel in the field. The information was recorded electronically. This allowed the agency to see in real time all

that was taking place islandwide. Issues such as the number of blocked roads, fallen trees, flood areas, fallen utility poles etc. were reported on, so information was at hand to aid decision making. The information facilitated regular updates to inform team members and others as to what areas had been cleared up or if teams had been deployed to the areas of interest. This information was also shared in summaries with the relevant authorities, who kept the island and news media in the loop about the NWA efforts.

Honestly, the initial thought was 'why should I be mandated to work when we also have our families and home to tend to or secure?' but eventually the 'why' turned to 'why not?' Yes, it is a sacrifice, but when we realize how everyone's effort contributed to a much bigger picture. When I saw the extent of the damage the western part of the island endured my heart was remorseful of even the thought of not wanting to help in any way possible.

After it was all said and done, the understanding of the need of individuals who were severely affected placed into perspective 'the why'

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

- Mahatma Gandhi

ROADSTER

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Views from Hurricane Melissa ... pg 12-13

Shani Green-The Internal Audit department's
Shy yet Shining Star ... pg 14-15

A home in Johns Hall, St. James hangs cliffside as Hurricane Melissa causes major landslides in the community, marooning hundreds. See more 'Views from Hurricane Melissa' on pages 12-13

Hurricane Melissa Mayhem:

Strongest hurricane on record to ever hit Jamaica

In late October 2025, Hurricane Melissa slammed into Jamaica with unprecedented force, leaving a trail of devastation across the island — particularly in the western region of our country namely in St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Manchester, Trelawny, and St. James. What began as a tropical storm rapidly intensified into a catastrophic Category 5 hurricane before landfall, bringing sustained winds of up to 295 kilometres per hour which equates to 185 miles per hour and storm surges of up to 4 meters which is about 13 feet in height.

Of Jamaica's total population, about 1.5 million people were affected by the storm's winds, flooding, and overall infrastructure loss including damage to homes, schools, places of business by this unprecedented natural disaster. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) estimates that around 191,000 buildings were damaged island-wide, displacing tens of thousands of households. The Jamaica Public Service Company Limited (JPSCo.) was working overtime as more than half the island initially lost electricity and telecommunications, with restoration efforts ongoing for weeks after Hurricane made landfall.

The National Works Agency (NWA) along with the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) worked in tandem during the passage of hurricane Melissa and even in the aftermath to inform the Jamaican public of latest statistics concerning road blocks due to down powerlines, scoured roadways, landslides, breakaways among several other damage to the roadway caused by the hurricane across the island. Over 385 roads were reported to the NWA by citizens of damage caused by Hurricane Melissa.

While all parishes experienced Hurricane Melissa to some extent, St. Elizabeth was Ground Zero of Destruction. Though the hurricane battered much of western and southern Jamaica, St. Elizabeth emerged



Manager, Communication and Customer Service Stephen Shaw (centre) show colleagues elements of the Disaster Management Application (DMA) to capture accurate information.

as one of the worst-hit areas. The historic parish's capital of Black River, the very first town in Jamaica to have received electricity and have a fully motorized car roving their streets, after the hurricane the town of Black River was totally unrecognizable. Establishments that contributed to the once vibrant capital including court houses, banks, food outlets, furniture stores and places of entertainment were now reduced to rubble. Up to 90% of buildings were reported damaged according to the United Nations Development Programme. Not even the NWA parish office situated on High Street was not spared during Melissa's wrath, taking the roof of the building with her.

Following the aftermath, the team from Communication and Customer Service got an opportunity to visit sections of our island and the devastation witnessed nothing came close to what they saw in St. Elizabeth.

More than 4.8 million tonnes of debris littered the corridors in St. Elizabeth. The team observed beds,

Record rainfall impacted sections of Montego Bay ... continue from page 18



A section of the Fairfield intersection onto which the Barnett River overflowed, leaving mounds of debris and garbage several feet above the road.

The Barnett Street Bridge, a critical crossing, was designed for a capacity of 155 cubic metres per second, with overtopping at 245 cubic metres per second. The 500-year return period flood far exceeded these capacities. The Jamaica II and SCS Hydrograph hydrologic methods (2010) estimated the 100-year return period discharge at 954 cubic metres per second and 776 cubic metres per second, respectively. Both were exceeded by the storm event.

Storm Surge & Return Periods:

The National Hurricane Center forecasted storm surge heights of 3–4 meters, exceeding the 100-year return period Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE) of 2.2 metres and the 99% confidence limit of 2.7 metres for the Montego River mouth (Smith Warner International, 1999). Surge effects extended up to 1 kilometre inland, filling drainage systems and creating backwater effects that increased flood levels. The communities of Catherine Hall and Westgreen fall well within the 1 kilometre space.

Infrastructure Overwhelmed:

The unprecedented winds and rain had a devastating impact on the existing drainage channels, dykes, and bridges. These were overtopped and breached by

stormwater flows far exceeding their design return periods.

The old arch bridge upstream of Barnett Street Bridge partially blocked waterflow and reduced hydraulic efficiency.

Mud and Debris:

The widespread mud and silt originated from hillside erosion, riverbank scour, and disturbed soils in the upper watershed. Following the flood event, many persons pointed fingers at the work being done to construct the Montego Bay Perimeter Road. The project is being managed on behalf of the government by Stanley Jamaca Engineers (SJE) Consultants. The company armed with the information regarding, wind, water, storm surge and mud flows has sought to rebuff this notion. It has cited the unprecedented levels of rainfall, coupled with the hydraulic weaknesses at the Montego River Bridge as major contributors to the flooding.

“The ongoing MBPRP realignment of the Montego River did not cause or significantly worsen the flooding. The river channel was constructed to design, and no abnormal flooding was observed upstream of the new bridge. However, incomplete scour protection contributed to localized erosion,” the company said.

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Record Rainfall Impacted

sections of Montego Bay – Melissa's wrath felt by the residents of the western city



A section of the road through the Catherine Hall community that left homes and vehicles damaged

On October 28, 2025, Hurricane Melissa, the most powerful hurricane in Jamaica's recorded history, made landfall along the southern section of Jamaica. More particularly the Melissa touched down between St. Elizabeth and Westmoreland and meandered across St. James. The hurricane brought record-breaking rainfall, catastrophic winds, and severe storm surge, resulting in unprecedented flooding, especially in the Catherine Hall community.

The community of Catherine Hall is located just off the coast of Montego Bay and is just outside of the Montego River flood plain. Stormwaters that impacted this space can be traced back to communities as far as Dumfries in the East Central section of St. James and Kempshot in the South. The Water Resources Authority does monitoring of rainfall in these areas. The numbers reported give a fairly good idea as to why the Catherine Hall/Westgreen communities were so badly impacted.

Findings with Return Periods - Extreme Rainfall & Return Periods:

Based on the numbers shared with the ROADSTER,

rainfall at Dumfries and Kempshot stations in the upper Montego River watershed exceeded 300 mm (12 inches) in 24 hours. At Dumfries, the 24-hour rainfall total (316 mm) exceeded the 100-year return period (201 mm) by 115 mm, corresponding to approximately a 300-year return period event.

At Kempshot, the 24-hour rainfall total (331 mm) was equivalent to a 50-year return period storm. Rainfall intensity peaked at over 52 mm/hour, aligning with the timing of flood onset in communities.

River Discharge & Return Periods

The Montego River hugs a section of the communities. The Montego River's peak discharge during Hurricane Melissa was estimated at 2,132–2,653 cubic metres per second, consistent with a 500-year return period (Jamaica II method). These peak flows were 13.8–17.1 times greater than the Barnett Street Bridge's 155 cubic metres per second design capacity—equivalent to 1,275%–1,611% above capacity, fully explaining the rapid overtopping of both the bridge and the adjacent roadway.

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Hurricane Melissa Mayhem: Strongest hurricane on record to ever hit Jamaica ... continue from page 2



While touring St. Elizabeth Manager, Communication and Customer Service Stephen Shaw (In frame) paused to conduct a tour with the media about the damage sustained in the parish. machine to conduct soil testing



A passerby points to the damage Hurricane Melissa did to the NWA's parish office



Scenes from Parottee, St. Elizabeth after Hurricane Melissa



dressers, washing machines, toys, zinc pieces, items of clothing and other materials, once valued and valuable, now blocked main and community roads, farms, and access to essential services including clinics, hospitals, schools were now inaccessible. Of the hardest communities hit in the parish was the capital Black River, Santa Cruz, Lacovia, Luana, Holland and Parottee. In Parottee, a once vibrant fishing village with self-sufficient residents was now cut off physically from the rest of the parish. There was now a huge gaping 'lake' that separated one side of the community to the other. Livelihoods now totally destroyed amid the strongest ever recorded hurricane in Jamaica's history leaving tens of thousands of residents displaced, not only in St. Elizabeth, but across the island.

Along with the physical and mental toll on residents living here in Jamaica and the diaspora, the economic toll could not be left out. Damage across sectors could totaled US \$8.8 billion dollars, which equates to roughly J\$1. 42 trillion dollars, affecting agriculture, tourism, and small businesses — especially in parishes that supply food and employ thousands, namely ST. Elizabeth which is dubbed the 'breadbasket' of Jamaica, adding to the already crippling food security issue that has been brewing.

Schools were heavily affected. Out of about 1,010 public schools in Jamaica, around 721 were damaged, with many classrooms losing roofs, flooding, or suffering structural damage. This forced schools to close or operate on limited schedules while repairs were underway. After weeks of recovery work, most schools have now reopened, although some are still using rotation schedules or temporary arrangements to ensure students can learn safely.

Shelters and basic needs became a priority after the natural disaster. In the days following the hurricane, nearly 15,000 Jamaicans were staying in emergency shelters because their homes were unsafe or destroyed. Over time, the government and partners who have pledged to help the country recover worked to reduce the number of shelter occupants, and by mid-December fewer than 1,000 people remained in shelters in western parishes as families moved toward longer-term housing solutions. Recovery work is ongoing and focused on essentials. Aid agencies from local and overseas and the United Nations have been helping with food supplies, safe drinking water, health services, and emergency support to families most affected. Looking ahead, rebuilding and working together are key as we seek to recover and recover stronger.

Hurricane Melissa

BATTERS THE WEST



Springmount, St. James.

This roadway was severely eroded during the passage of Hurricane Melissa.

Hurricane Melissa made landfall on October 28, 2025, as a Category 5 storm. Despite the many warnings few could have really imagined the level of devastation that would have been left in her wake.

Tales of the sheer panic and anguish experienced by citizens during the passage of the Hurricane will not be forgotten anytime soon. It is a storm that sadly led to loss of lives, catastrophic flooding, demolition of dwellings and significant damage to places of business and government offices. Many communities are still without power and running water, creating even more challenges as residents try to put back the pieces of their lives.

The hurricane also had a devastating impact on our road infrastructure, resulting in some communities being cut off and other roadways being reduced to single lane access. A review of the damage shows a trail of devastation in the West, with the parishes of Westmoreland, Trelawny, St. James and Hanover being particularly negatively impacted.

Despite the devastation, it was heartwarming to see how Jamaicans banded together to support their neighbours. There are so many unsung heroes who have risen during this time to help to save lives, support their fellow men and restore access to their communities. The hurricane highlighted the resilience of Jamaicans and our ability to support our neighbors in times of distress.

The Technical team in the West must be applauded for their commitment during the period. Despite having their own challenges from the devastation brought on By Hurricane Melissa, they were out early following the storm, putting service above self. It was a true test of their mettle, but they were undaunted by the sheer devastation all around and stayed committed to the task. They not just supervising restorative work but putting in the physical work to clear blocked roadways.

Quacy McIntosh National Works Agency's Employee of the Year ... continue from page 16



Quacy makes adjustments to a traffic signal head.

an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering from Knox Community College.

For McIntosh, the NWA has also been a good training ground, and he has gained immense knowledge under the tutelage of Signal Technician, Barrington Cross,



Quacy was selected as the Employee of the Second Quarter for the Western Region in July 2025.

who led he and other members of the team through the intricacies of the management of traffic signals. He also credits, the now deceased Driver/Operator, Llewlyn Blake, with helping to guide him in his early days of employment at the Agency.



QUACY MCINTOSH

National Works Agency's Employee of the Year

December 8, 2025, was a proud moment for Field Technician, Quacy McIntosh, as he accepted his Employee of the Year award.

The award came as a welcome surprise, as he had no real inkling of what was to come, as he sat and took part in the recently held Retiree and Appreciation Luncheon. What he thought was an effort to bring retirees and Employees of the Quarter together, in a show of appreciation, turned into the highlight of his career.

The award follows his Employee of the Quarter (second quarter) Award in the Western Region in July, 2025, which qualified him for the ultimate award - Employee of the Year. There were a number of other deserving nominees, but ultimately Mr. McIntosh, based on his scores during selection process, rose victorious. It is a fitting award for a hard-working team player, who has given stellar service to the NWA.

Mr. McIntosh joined the National Works Agency in 2022, fresh from his studies at the University of. He was employed as a Field Technician, stationed at the Corporate Office. In 2023 he was transferred to the Western Region, where he is not only responsible for the maintenance of the traffic signal infrastructure in the West, but also in the parishes of St. Elizabeth and St. Ann.

A consistent high achiever, Mr. McIntosh is known for his remarkable work ethic, welcoming personality and humble demeanour. It is not unusual to see him working early morning, late evening and on weekends. He does not confine himself to the regular working hours. Whatever task he is assigned he approaches with the same level of zeal and resolve. He is proactive and tries to find creative solutions to tackle problems he encounters in the field. This he says is one of the things he loves about his job. For him, the fact that no situation is the same and that he is challenged to think outside of the box is, is a very rewarding experience.

He is a team player, who ensures that he communicates



Employee of the Year, Quacy McIntosh, accepts his award from Chief Executive Officer, Everton Hunter.

matters related to his function, especially aspects that may affect the public. Mr. McIntosh is always willing to share information and project updates with internal and external customers. He understands the importance of his function to the overall function of the NWA. As such, even when he does not have all the information, he ensures that he follows up with his team members and shares relevant information as soon as it is available.

Additionally, he does not limit himself to his assigned tasks, but also assists members of his department, with tasks outside his scope. It is therefore not unusual to see him assisting with other activities such as road marking and the planting of traffic signs.

Mr. McIntosh spent his formative years in Content, Manchester, before migrating to Kingston to pursue higher education. As a child he was always fascinated by the inner workings of gadgets and loved to pull them apart just to fix them. This would later influence his career choice.

He holds a Bachelor of Sciences Degree in Industrial Technology from the University of the West Indies and

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Hurricane Melissa Batters the West ... continue from page 4



NWA Parish Manager- Hanover, Kiel Brown, helps to clear a section of the Kew to Great River roadway, in the vicinity of the Tryall Club.



Stetting - Highgate Hall Trelawny
This concrete two story dwelling buckled under the pressure of Hurricane Melissa, slipping several metres after the roadway was undermined.



Clearing works along a section of the Stetting to Highgate Hall roadway in Trelawny.



Salt Marsh - Kent, Trelawny. The roadway was severely scoured following the passage of the Hurricane



NWA Assistant Parish Manager- Trelawny, Marlon Seargeant (centre) and Xavier Grace, NWA Parish Manager - Trelawny work to clear a section of the Ulster - Stetting via Freeman's Hall roadway in Trelawny, during a tour of South Trelawny with State Minister the Hon. Robert Morgan and Member of Parliament the Hon. Marissa Dalrymple Philibert.



A massive breakaway along a section of the Stetting to Highgate Hall roadway in the vicinity of the Lowe River community.



Albert Town - Stetting, Trelawny...removal of large tree which completely blocked a section of the roadway

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Hurricane Melissa Batters the West ... continue from page 5



Works to clear a section of the Howard Cooke Boulevard in St. James. The roadway was impacted by washed down silt, debris and motor cars which had washed away following devastating flooding in the nearby Catherine Hall community.



A scoured section of the AGS Coombs roadway, in the vicinity of the Herbert Morrison Technical High School.



Fallen boulders along a section of the Guilsbro to Kensington roadway in St. James.



An eroded section of the Chelsea roadway in Irwin, St. James which was severely eroded following Hurricane Melissa. The roadway has since been temporarily restored.



A scoured section of the Seven Rivers (Montpelier- Cambridge) roadway in St. James. This section was inundated by feet of water several days after the storm.



Works to repair a section of the Rough road, located along the Sign to Virgin Valley roadway in St. James. This section, which was completely cut off, has since been restored.



Fallen trees along the Cascade – Flint River roadway in Hanover.

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Shani Green-The Internal Audit department's Shy yet Shining Star ... continue from page 14

include conducting pre-audit verification reviews, performing research through document analysis and interviews, overseeing audit engagements, reviewing completed audits for compliance and accuracy, and delivering periodic presentations.

Prior to applying for her former role at the National Works Agency, she researched how this role could further her career, recognizing its potential to foster growth and enhance her professional capabilities, she 'threw her hat in the ring' and was successful. Her professional path since then has evolved through executing and observing diverse engagements, embracing leadership opportunities, and accepting mentorship from those with extensive knowledge, equipping her to hopefully make impactful contributions to the agency.

Shani's current role supports the Agency's mission and vision by championing accountability, fostering transparency, and verifying compliance with established policies and regulations. These measures position the Agency for long-term operational success while protecting its valuable resources. Everything counts, literally!

When information is not readily available, it can affect both the timing and depth of the audit. To navigate this, she focuses on consistent communication with auditees, reinforcing deadlines where necessary, and leveraging alternative audit techniques to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence. For her, the most rewarding aspect of her job is seeing daily tasks translate into meaningful improvements that truly take shape.

Along the journey here the camaraderie out and was truly fondest memory here retiring from musical Roadster.

She takes immense realized throughout agency, both in her in her advancement When the Roadster balance she had this to say- "striking a balance between my professional and personal responsibilities can be quite challenging, but I make a conscious effort to engage in activities that feed my interests and dedicate time to family as a personal reset. Beyond the office, I pursue interests that keep me grounded and motivated, such as cooking, exploring natural landscapes, self-care, maintaining an active lifestyle, enjoying time by the ocean, and traveling to broaden my cultural perspective."

As customary, the Roadster asks our featured subject for a personal mantra and this is what Shani left these words with our readers- "Carry grace in your steps, kindness in your heart, mindfulness in your stance, and purpose in your journey." She hopes these sentiments can resonate with at least one employee. Until next time.



at the National Works Agency, at NWA sports day stood unmatched and remains her so far, "though I'm officially cheers" as she joyfully told the

pride in the growth she has her journey here at the personal development and as an auditing professional. enquired about her work/ life



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The Internal Audit department's Shy yet Shining Star

SHANI GREEN

Shani Green, is the National Works Agency's senior Auditor, who is as pleasant as she is 'matter of fact' when it comes on to carrying out her professional duties. We often see the work of our fellow colleagues but rarely do we ever interact with them on a personal level. In this edition of the Roadster's feature article, we will get to know our senior auditor behind the amiable smile.

Growing up in the beautiful parish of St. Elizabeth, she spent much of her childhood outdoors with her sibling and her cousins, always having someone to explore the great outdoors with, to compete against, or cause harmless mischief with. "Somewhere along the line, I developed a love for the performing arts and eagerly took part in track and field, speech, public speaking, and dance competitions, as well as choir performances, despite always being off-key and still unable to carry a tune in a bucket to this day" she gleefully told the Roadster.

She added that some of her fondest childhood memories included fearlessly chasing and even trapping bees and butterflies, a risky pastime she now seriously questions. She fondly remembers family time, which included walks, storytelling, picture days, and movie nights where they would rinse and repeat the same movies they loved. She also loved the simpler moments such as her mom styling her hair, which always ended in tears, but somehow still doubled as their special bonding time.

When asked of the early influences in her life Shani told the Roadster that it was her mother who shaped much of who she is, always challenging her to excel to the highest heights, supporting her ambitions, and allowing her the freedom and the ability to explore her interests with few limitations. She was equally blessed with teachers who uplifted her, encouraging her involvement in leadership and voluntary roles at school and reinforcing her confidence through their constant positive words. While attending the Black River High School, the institution significantly contributed to her academic development and personal growth with lessons that are still being used to this day.

During her time in high school, she first set her sights on the medical field to become a registered nurse, but after realizing how well she performed in business courses, it felt like the natural choice, and it became clear that this was the direction she would eventually pursue. After High School she pursued her tertiary education at the University of the West Indies, Mona where she majored in Accounting and minored in Management Studies.

Her academic background in accounting provided a foundation for the work she does now, as auditing was a core component of her degree programme. The auditing courses served as a cornerstone in preparing her on the 'how-to' of applying auditing methodologies in real-world scenarios. During a transformational internship at Ernst and Young, a global titan in the field of auditing, the placement in the assurance division provided her with practical exposure to auditing, which further developed her interest in the field and cemented her decision to pursue it as a career.

Shani started her employment journey at the National Works Agency in April of 2024, where she is currently serving in the capacity of Senior Auditor following a recent promotion in December 2025. Her core responsibilities

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Hurricane Melissa Batters the West ... continue from page 6



A team work to clear a section of the Marchmont to Washfoot Gully roadway in St. James, which was blocked by a large tree.



Cash Hill – Flower Hill. A Massive landslide blocking a section of the corridor.



Great River to Kew Bridge. Roadway partially blocked by fallen tree.



Kew to Cascade via Jericho. Clearing of fallen tree.



Grange – Friendship, Westmoreland. A section of the approach to this bridge was severely undermined following the storm.



Scouring along a section of the Goodens River to Glasgow roadway in Westmoreland

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Hurricane Melissa Batters the West ... continue from page 7



An eroded section of the Darliston to Woodstock roadway in Westmoreland.



Jerusalem Mountain to Glasgow. Clearing of a section of the roadway which blocked by fallen trees.



Withorn – Darliston. Westmoreland. Road clearing works underway.



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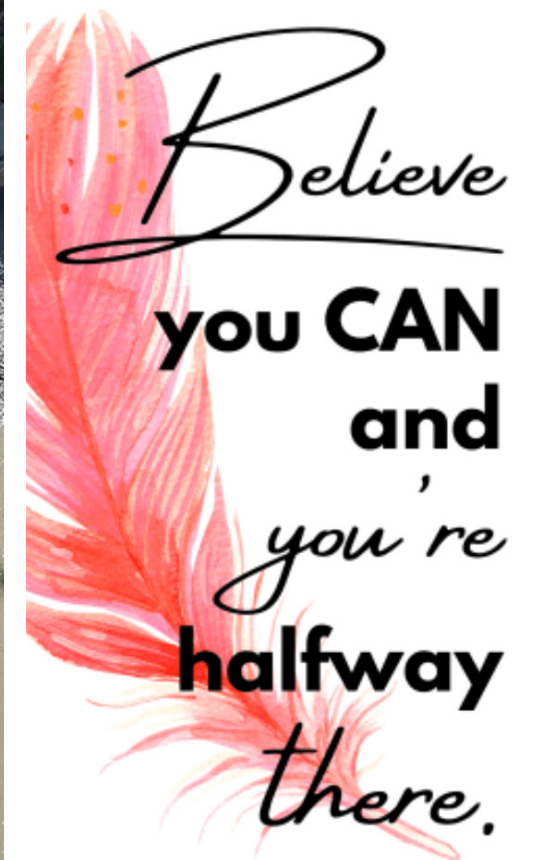
SPARK making landfall in the South East Region ... continue from page 12



Concrete Paving Works in Moy Hall, St. James.

Moy Hall roadway is one of several roadways that are receiving attention under the SPARK programme. The projects are being executed through a series of Work Orders, with emphasis being placed on community roadways. Among the roadways that are also being targeted in St. James is the Greenwood community roadway; Kodac Drive in Flankers; Unity Crescent in Green Pond and the Brissett Road in Cambridge.

SPARK is an island wide road rehabilitation programme valued at approximately \$45 billion programme. This initiative is a targeted approach to the improvement of the island's road network. Works under the programme are being executed by China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC).





Concrete Paving Works in Moy Hall, St. James.

Residents of Moy Hall, St. James, in West Central St. James, have welcomed a major project to upgrade the roadway in their community. This project is a blessing for residents who had become increasingly frustrated with the deteriorating conditions along the roadway, which is the only access point to their community.

Many residents had resigned themselves from the situation with some residents resorting to parking their motor vehicles at the entrance to community and taking the steep trek to their homes whenever it rained. Rainfall made the poor road conditions even more challenging, especially a particularly steep section of the corridor which was difficult to navigate. Residents were afraid of careening off the roadway into a nearby precipice on that particular section of the roadway.

In August 2025, the National Works Agency (NWA) commenced a \$71 million road rehabilitation project along the 1.3 kilometre stretch of roadway. The project is being undertaken through the Shared Prosperity through Accelerated Improvement to our Road Network (SPARK) programme.

This programme has introduced a new concept to residents of the community, that of a concrete pavement. It is currently the only SPARK project in the Western Region which will heavily use concrete pavement as part of its engineering. The decision was taken based on the extremely steep slope of the roadway and the intended challenges with heavy surface water. This design will help to protect the roadway from erosion.

The project entails significant drainage improvement, with the construction of Kerb and channel drains, V drains and U drains. Additionally, the project involves the reshaping of the roadway using concrete pavement in some sections, and asphaltic concrete overlay in other sections.

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Hurricane Melissa

MEMORIES

XAVIOR GRACE

Parish Manager- Trelawny

"One of my strongest memories is seeing our teams report for duty even though their own homes were damaged and their families were facing real risks. That quiet commitment was a powerful reminder of why public service matters and how deeply resilience is embedded in our agency."

I also remember the care packages that team members shared. The corned beef sandwiches and cup soups truly made a difference during that time. Sometimes it was the simplest things that kept people going.

On a personal note, I remain grateful to a coworker who picked me up along the road after I had walked several miles trying to get to work because my vehicle was trapped. That moment reflected the spirit of support and teamwork that defines us"

SHANELLE MCFARLANE

Finance and Accounts Department

"Sorry to say she has not done anything to tragic to me, I reside in Portmore, St. Catherine so there was not much damage"

ANDREW GRANT

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Unit

"Two vivid memories I will share and they are, how the forces of nature can be devastatingly humbling, and I saw how a nation that are seemingly divided, whether by politics or economics, exhibit a high level of commadore through empathy and love for one another"

ROMARIO MONCRIEFFE

Records Services Unit

"Well, guess for me I was looking forward to what it would be like seen that she was a category 5 hurricane, but memory for me coming out of hurricane Melissa is working Emergency Operating Centre (EOC) getting to see firsthand damage before she impact the island and after she left the island."

BRITTNEY THOMPSON

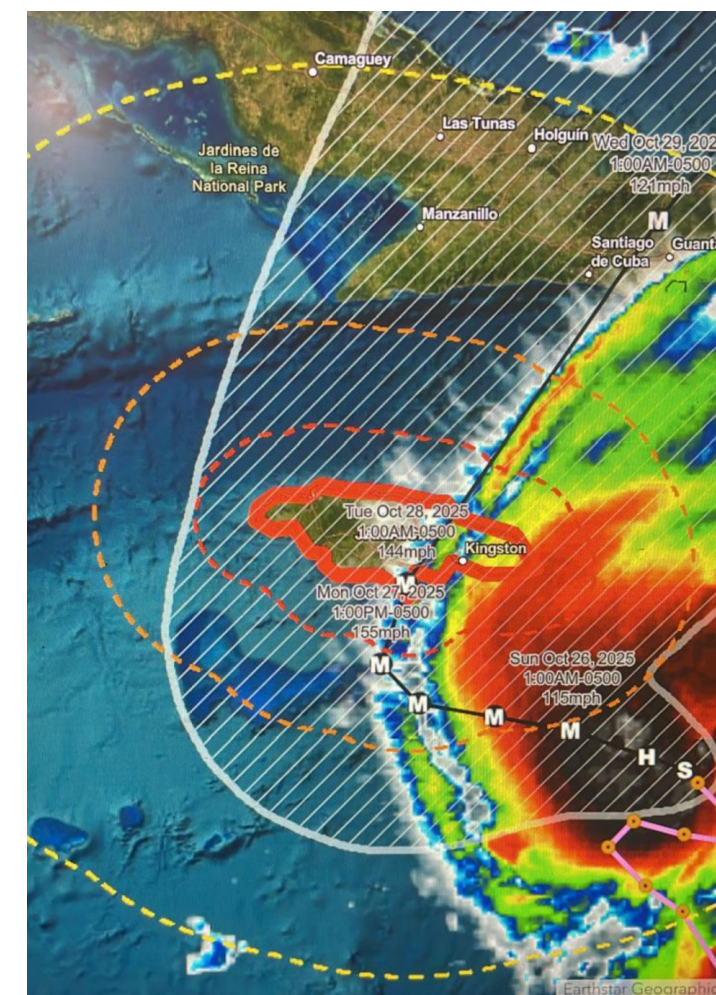
Planning and Research Department

"The passing of Hurricane was both unnerving and memorable, with many hours spent following the weather and staying informed. It was a reminder to us not to take safety and preparedness for granted"

JONATHAN MEDLEY

Information Technology

"My Melissa experience was more so interesting as it was my first experience as a working professional. Lots of lessons that we would have taken for granted as children. Preparing lists making sure you have everything you need for future natural disasters."



Real time satellite image of Hurricane Melissa

VIEWS FROM HURRICANE MELISSA



1-Marchmount to Washfoot Gully, St. James 2- Tranquility to Bangor Ridge, Portland 3- Breastworks to Windsor, Portland 4- Lowe River, Trelawny, 5- Grange to Friendship, Westmoreland 6- Ballintoy to Bonneville (Nine Miles Road), St. Ann 7- Chester Castle to Jacks Gate, Westmoreland 8- Darlington to Carmel, Westmoreland 9- Main Ridge to Orange Hill, Clarendon 10- Section to Silver Hill Gap, Portland 11- Balcarres to Wakefield, Portland

12- Balcarres to Wakefield, Portland 14- Seaford Town to Pigsah, Westmoreland 15- Sign to Virgin Valley, St. James 16- Buff Bay to Balcarres, Portland 17- Sign to Virgin Valley, St. James 18- Sign to Virgin Valley, St. James 19- Over River Bridge, St. James 20- Fairfield to Point (Spring Mount), St. James