

2025/26 Winter Programme - Tuesday Night Talks

Dinner served from 1800hrs, Talks commence 1915hrs



7th OCTOBER

The Island Interviews... James Stevens

James is a leading authority in maritime training, best known for expanding the RYA Yachtmaster programme into 35 countries. With 23 years at the RYA, he led the dinghy, powerboat, and professional instructor schemes, training personnel from the RN, Royal Marines, RNLI, and Coastguard. A former RYA Training Manager and Chief Examiner, he now chairs the RYA/MCA disciplinary panel, contributes regularly to the yachting press, and holds several prestigious maritime honours.

14th OCTOBER

The Island Interviews... Steve Crisp

Head of Horticulture to the US Ambassador managing the gardens at the Ambassador's residence, Winfield House, for almost 40 years. Steve designed the planting at the new US Embassy in London and is a renowned garden and floral designer and RHS judge. He has judged at the Chelsea Flower Show and the Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival amongst many others.

21st OCTOBER

An Evening with... Magnus Wheatley

Magnus is a leading expert on the America's Cup, the world's oldest international sporting trophy. His book *There is No Second*, researched and written over two years, offers a captivating deep dive into the Cup's rich history, traditions, and legendary rivalries—starting with its origins around the Isle of Wight in 1851.

22nd OCTOBER (Admittedly, a Wednesday)

An Evening with... Larry Lamb

The actor, author and radio presenter joins us at the Island Saling Club, in collaboration with Medina Bookshop.

Further details available from Medina Bookshop

28th OCTOBER

An Evening with... Ted Hill, WetWheels Foundation

The WetWheels Foundation provides the opportunity for all disabled people, including those with profound and complex disabilities, to access the sea in a safe, stimulating and rewarding way on board specially-built, fully-accessible powerboats. By offering the opportunity to experience this as active participants, the Foundation aim to build confidence and improve physical and mental wellbeing.

4th NOVEMBER

The Island Interviews... Captain Martin Phipps MBE

Martin is a Master Mariner with over 50 years' experience working within the ports and shipping industry. Before joining Associated British Ports (ABP) as a Pilot he served in the Merchant Navy and has over 10 years' command experience on geared bulk carriers, VLCCs and gas carriers.

11th NOVEMBER

An Evening with... Christopher Warleigh-Lack

Christopher is Head of the Royal Collection at Osborne House, part of the English Heritage estate, and will be sharing his knowledge in a talk titled "Queen Victoria Remembering Albert at Osborne". The talk highlights Osborne in its wider context, introduces the Royal Collection and looks at the objects that Victoria surrounded herself with in her bedroom to remember Albert by.

18th NOVEMBER

An Evening with... Kevin Shaw

'The Charge of the Light Brigade, Tennyson's Poem & The Crimean War' The stirring poem – first penned at Farringford – vividly captures part of wider tale of incompetent leadership, blundering heroics and terrible suffering in the Crimea.

25th NOVEMBER

An Evening with... Ian Hanley, Sea Change Wine

Ian presents Sea Change Wine, a small team with big ambitions on a mission to turn the tide against plastic pollution. Rooted in a family wine business established over 15 years ago, Sea Change Wine emerged from a belief that businesses bear a responsibility to the environment. They have eliminated the unnecessary plastic wrap around the cork, their label paper is sourced from certified sustainable forests and made partially from grape waste, and they use natural corks. Working with global marine charity partners, Ian explains the history of Sea Change Wine and offers a wine flight tasting session.