

JAZZ Weekend

THE ISLE OF
WIGHT

16 SEP 20
20~ SEP 26

iwjw.co.uk

Welcome to the 2026 Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend. The event continues to grow in popularity, with attendances at last year's IWJW making it by far our most successful weekend to date. This is a trend which we hope to continue this year with another line up that we are confident will prove varied and interesting to both new and regular audiences.



The IWJW attracts some of the best musicians in the country, with many at this year's event having attended on numerous occasions, including Claire Martin OBE, who following her appearance in 2024, referred to it as a "*fantastic festival*".

The performances this year, as last year, begin on Wednesday, with twelve headline events and an extensive fringe programme. As well as the returning musicians, we are delighted to welcome a number of new performers to the IWJW. In addition, as a reflection of the strength of the jazz scene on the Island, we are delighted that five of the headline acts involve musicians either based on, or from, the Isle of Wight.

The IWJW continues to be entirely run by volunteers on a not-for-profit basis with the local Mountbatten Hospice continuing as our chosen partner charity.

Jim Thorn

Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend

WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

[A] UNITY STOMPERS

Mountbatten Hospice: 7.00 - 9.00pm

Tickets: £10, Under 21's £5

The Unity Stompers are one of the Isle of Wight's best known and longest-running jazz groups, and are specialists in traditional jazz. They have appeared in a number of IW Jazz Weekends with special guests including Digby Fairweather and latterly Amy Roberts, with whom they played in 2025 at a packed Apollo Theatre. The Stompers open this year's IWJW at the Mountbatten Hospice and guarantee a lively and fun start to the festival.

Andy Norman - Trumpet and Vocals

Richard White - Reeds

Dave Bryant - Trombone and Vocals

Martin Dover - Piano

Sandor Sztankovics - Tuba

James Sear - Drums



THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

[B] LET US TAKE YOU TO PARIS

Newport Methodist Church: 3.15 - 5.00pm

Tickets: £10, Under 21's £5

'Let us take you to Paris' offers an immersive experience of French music, featuring iconic works from artists like Edith Piaf, Charles Trenet, Django Reinhardt and Serge Gainsbourg.

The show is guided by Parisian-born Fifi La Mer and Oliver Wilby. Together they bring a unique blend of French musical history, covering a century of Parisian tunes, while sharing captivating tales of romance, mystery, and heartache. Fifi has gained recognition through sold-out shows at venues like Ronnie Scott's with her quartet/ quintet Oh la la, whilst Oliver has performed with prestigious ensembles such as the Pasadena Roof Orchestra and BBC Big Band.

Audience testimonials praise the show for its captivating music, entertaining storytelling, and the duo's ability to create an exciting and enjoyable atmosphere.

Fifi La Mer - Vocals and Accordion

Oliver Wilby - Clarinet, Saxophone and Accordion



THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

[C] DEBI BOTOS QUARTET WITH OLIVIA CURE

Mountbatten Hospice: 6.00 - 8.00pm

Tickets: £12, Under 21's £5

From an early age, guitarist Debi Botos has cultivated an interest in the Gypsy music of Hungary, where she was born into a family of musicians. A self-taught musician who is now in high demand, she has created a free and exciting blend of folk and gypsy jazz and is inspired by Django Reinhardt.

Debi has recently collaborated on a number of projects with Island-based vocalist and pianist Olivia Cure.

This will be a captivating blend of musical styles, with the added bonus of Jon Thorne (double bass) plus Kourosh Kanani (guitar).

Debi Botos - Guitar

Olivia Cure - Vocals and Piano

Kourosh Kanani - Guitar

Jon Thorne - Double Bass



Expert legal advice
at your service

WHY CHOOSE US?

We work hard to ensure that our legal services are delivered in a hassle-free way and in a language that you can understand.



Support

We'll help you approach your situation with confidence.



Suggestion

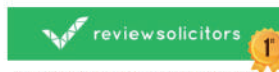
We'll help you make the best decision for you and your family.



Solution

We'll help you to gain the best possible outcome.

Churchers Solicitors are proud to support
the Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend 2026!



The Isle of Wight's No. 1 Rated Solicitor Firm

☎ 01983 562 201

✉ info@churchers.co.uk

🌐 www.churchers.co.uk

Cowes

Newport

Freshwater

Ryde

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

[D] CAMERON ROSSI QUARTET

Apollo Theatre: 3.00 - 4.45pm

Tickets: £12, Under 21's £5

Cameron Rossi, originally from the Isle of Wight, is making great strides as a professional musician and is now a powerful, accomplished and versatile saxophonist greatly admired by his peers.

With 2026 being the centenary of John Coltrane's birth, Cameron's quartet will perform a repertoire largely influenced by Coltrane's works and recordings.

Cameron Rossi - Saxophone

Tom Barker - Piano

Jon Thorne - Double Bass

Chris Jones - Drums



[E] CLAIRE MARTIN AND LAURENCE COTTLE'S BASS TO FACE

Methodist Church: 5.15 - 7.15pm

Tickets: £15, Under 21's £5

Multi-award winning Brighton-based singer Claire Martin OBE and bass legend Laurence Cottle have joined forces for an extraordinary new collaboration, merging their deep love for the Great American Songbook with their own original compositions. The new duo, named Bass to Face, is set to captivate audiences with an exceptional and unique approach to a duo setting, the only instrumentation being Claire's soulful vocals and Laurence's electric bass.



Laurence, who is revered worldwide for his extraordinary bass playing skill, will also treat audiences by adding his trombone to the mix, showcasing yet another of his musical talents. Friends for more than 35 years, Claire and Laurence have worked together in a variety of settings, from trio performances to grand orchestral collaborations across the globe.

Bass to Face is an idea they have shared for years and now, with their combined creativity, it's finally coming to life! Unique and full of energy, this collaboration is an adventure pushing the boundaries of a duo setting and having fun along the way.

Claire Martin - Vocals

Laurence Cottle - Bass, Trombone, Effects

FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

[F] FRIDAY NIGHT AT QUAY ARTS

Quay Arts: 7.30pm - 11.30pm

Tickets: £13, Under 21's £5

Downstairs

- 6.30 - 7.00 Jazz DJ Jim Kerr
- 7.00 - 7.45 Ryde School Swing Band
- 7.45 - 8.00 DJ Jim Kerr
- 8.00 - 8.40 Jim Thorn Latin Jazz Quartet featuring Gary Plumley
- 8.40 - 9.00 DJ Jim Kerr
- 9.00 - 9.40 Jim Thorn Quartet
- 9.40 - 10.15 DJ Jim Kerr

Upstairs

- 8.15 - 9.00 Esprit Bohème
- 9.20 - 10.00 Esprit Bohème
- 10.15 - 11.30 Jam Session



Friday Night at the Quay Arts has proved to be very popular, offering a wide range of jazz styles and allowing audiences to enjoy a meal from its café if they wish (6.45pm to 8.15pm downstairs on a first come first served basis) and then move between performances downstairs and upstairs.

Esprit Bohème will be performing upstairs, bringing the charm of Gypsy Jazz to life, a vocally led quartet blending Django style swing with touches of French elegance. Fronted by French vocalist Olivia Cure, the group pairs her inspired improvisation with Hugo Boswell's intricate guitar lines, Jon Thorne's warm, expressive double bass, and Steve Thompson's classic rhythm guitar pulse.

Following in the footsteps of Derek Nash from last year will be another world class saxophonist, Gary Plumley, who has performed with Sax Appeal and the Alleycats. Gary, who lives locally and is also a flautist, is performing with the Jim Thorn Latin Quartet featuring Loren Thorn (vocals), Jim Thorn (piano), Tom Ford (bass) and Ken Black (percussion).

In between performances, the music continues under the auspices of jazz DJ, Jim Kerr.

Friday night at the Quay Arts then culminates in a jam session, welcoming not just musicians who have been playing during the evening, but from the audience as well, whether they are performing during the IWJW or not. Full of spontaneity and improvisation, it is jazz at its most entertaining.

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

[G] TOM FORD TRIO

Quay Arts: 1.00 - 2.45pm

Tickets: £12, Under 21's £5

After experimenting with new material at London's 91 Living room on Bricklane, Tom Ford's most recent work has been in a trio format, touring Europe including Ukraine and Malta. The trio format allows more freedom musically, with Tom drawing on the rich tradition of jazz trios from Bill Evans and Ahmad Jamal to Pat Methenys first album and Bill Frisell. This allows Tom to explore the full capability of the guitar as both a solo and harmony instrument and the material he has written reflects this in its arrangements that specifically suit a guitar trio.



Tom has been playing with different line ups while developing his material, but for this show he will be joined by the young bassist Stan Woodward of the band Knats, and Manchester born London based drummer Oscar Ogden, who performs regularly around Europe, including the Montreux Jazz Festival.

The music ranges from delicate and soft to dynamic and exciting, with the trio playing off each other inspiring new versions of their music each time they play.

Tom Ford - Guitar

Stan Woodward - Bass

Oscar Ogden - Drums

Proudly supporting the
Isle of Wight Jazz Festival

Biltmore PRINTERS

Tel: 01983 529788

Email: info@biltmoreprinters.co.uk

Business Cards • Books • Letterheads •
Brochures • Leaflets • Invoice Books • Labels
• Site Boards • Shop Fascias •
Vehicle Graphics • Bespoke Projects

Professional Service • Affordable Prices

Biltmore SIGNS



ONE HOLYROOD
ISLE OF WIGHT

The Hotel at the Heart of Newport,
the Centre of the Isle of Wight
Accommodation Café Garden Jazz
1 Holyrood Street, Newport IOW PO30 5AU
www.oneholyrood.co.uk +44 1983 521717

IWJW PATRONS SCHEME

PATRONS

In 2024 we introduced a 'Patrons of the IW Jazz Weekend' scheme. The cost is £400 for an individual or £600 for a couple. Once paid, the patronage will last for a lifetime.

Benefits of becoming a Patron

- Your name(s) will be listed on our website
- Your name(s) will be listed in our programme as Patron of IWJW
- You will receive a IWJW shirt (each)
- Two free tickets per year (each) for a gig of your choice
- Discounts on other tickets each year
- Reserved seating for all gigs

Our Patrons

- Janneke Oxley
- Steven Matthews
- Graham and Christine Benson
- Jeremy and Vicky Turk
- Lucy Macdonald

We are very grateful to all our Patrons for their support.

Patrons can remain anonymous if they so wish (currently three are anonymous). For further information on becoming a Patron, please email info@iwjw.co.uk.

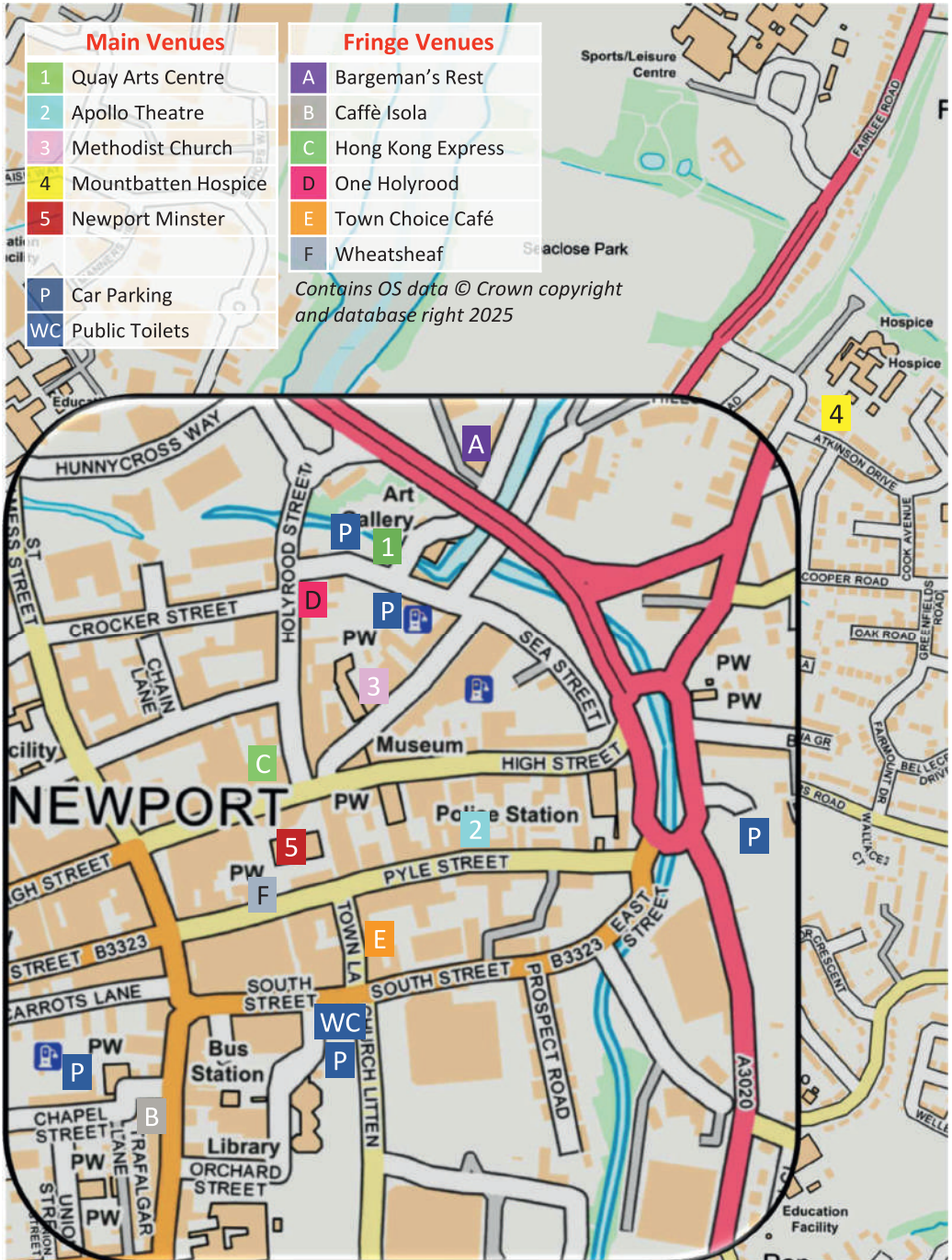
IWJW SHIRTS

'Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend' shirts and other merchandise are now available for purchase (although not the black shirts, which are reserved for IWJW staff and volunteers). Please visit iwjazzweekend.secure-decoration.com to view and make purchases.



Specialist solicitor with 25yrs experience covering:
Family Law, Employment Law and Mediation
Competitive fees with no VAT payable
www.jimthorn.co.uk

VENUE MAP



GIG GUIDE

Time	Act	Venue	Price
Wednesday 16 September			
7.00-9.00	[A] Unity Stompers	Mountbatten Hospice	£10, under 21s £5
Thursday 17 September			
1.00-3.00	John Davidson Trio	One Holyrood	Free Fringe*
3.15-5.00	[B] Let Us Take You to Paris	Methodist Church	£10, under 21s £5
6.00-8.00	[C] Debi Botos Quartet with Olivia Cure	Mountbatten Hospice	£12, under 21s £5
8.00-11.00	The Secret Night Gang	Strings	£16.50
Friday 18 September			
1.00-3.00	Tom Hendy Trio	One Holyrood	Free Fringe*
3.00-4.45	[D] Cameron Rossi Quartet	Apollo Theatre	£12, under 21s £5
5.15-7.15	[E] Claire Martin & Laurence Cottle's Bass to Face	Methodist Church	£15, under 21s £5
7.30-11.30	[F] Friday Night at Quay Arts	Quay Arts	£13, under 21s £5
7.30-9.00	Steve Parkes Solo Piano	Hong Kong Express	Free Fringe
8.00-10.30	Fellowship of Groove	Bargeman's Rest	Free Fringe
Saturday 19 September			
12.30-2.30	Sarah Bolter with the Steve Parkes Trio	One Holyrood	Free Fringe*
1.00-2.45	[G] Tom Ford Trio	Quay Arts	£12, under 21s £5
3.10-5.00	[H] The Lapazoos	Apollo Theatre	£13, under 21s £5
5.45-7.45	[I] Reed-a-Rama	Apollo Theatre	£13, under 21s £5
8.00-10.30	Gary Plumley Quartet	Wheatsheaf	Free Fringe
8.20-10.30	[J] Jazz Dynamos	Newport Minster	£16, under 21s £5
Sunday 20 September			
11.00-12.15	Jazz Eucharist	Newport Minster	Free Fringe
1.30-3.30	[K] Steve Waterman Octet	Apollo Theatre	£15, under 21s £5
2.00-4.00	Cat Skellington	Bargeman's Rest	Free Fringe
2.00-4.00	JC & Angelina	Caffe Isola	Free Fringe
4.15-6.30	[L] Liane Carroll Trio	Newport Minster	£15, under 21s £5
7.15-9.30	[M] Matt Skelton 'Blackhawk' Quintet	Apollo Theatre	£13, under 21s £5
Key: Events in bold are ticketed gigs to be booked via IWJW. All other events are free entry for the public (other than the event at Strings Bar & Venue - book via Strings' website), but food/drink may have to be purchased in some cases for which a table booking may be required (please contact the venue if in doubt, in particular for * events).			

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

[H] THE LAPAZOOS

Apollo Theatre: 3.10 - 5.00pm

Tickets: £13 Under 21's £5

The Lapazoos formed to perform at London's 'Nightjar' cocktail bar soon after it opened some 15 years ago. They have featured there every month ever since, playing a mixture of swing, New Orleans, blues, ballads, performed with 'joie de vivre', giving fun and life to a broad repertoire of songs that audiences warm to.

The band has been expanded for the Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend with the addition of trumpet and drums.

Laurence Corns - Guitar and Vocals

Graham Hughes - Trombone, Chromatic Harmonica and Vocals

Ben Cummings - Trumpet and Vocals

Brett Neville - Double Bass

Dave Ingamells - Drums



[I] REED-A-RAMA

Apollo Theatre: 5.45 - 7.45pm

Tickets: £13, Under 21's £5

Alan Barnes and Robert Fowler have played together in many different settings from the Pasadena Roof Orchestra, via Humphrey Lyttelton and Bryan Ferry, to both the Simon Spillett and BBC Big Bands. They have developed an intuitive, empathetic and joyful approach to making music together.

This pared-back and intimate ensemble, completed by Jason Henson on guitar and Dan Sheppard on bass, is the perfect setting for the two like-minded reeds-men to showcase their passion for straight ahead, swinging jazz. The wide-ranging repertoire alternates between tight arrangements and off the cuff spontaneous versions of any tune they may fancy.

These musicians are inspired soloists with all the qualities that make for a brilliant and entertaining ensemble.

Alan Barnes - Alto, Soprano, Baritone Saxophones and Clarinet

Robert Fowler - Tenor Saxophone and Clarinet

Jason Henson - Guitar

Dan Sheppard - Bass



[J] JAZZ DYNAMOS

Newport Minster: 8.20 - 10.30pm

Tickets: £16, Under 21's £5

This five-piece London band takes pop songs from the 70s and 80s and reimagines them through the language of jazz, bossa, samba and swing. The result is music that feels instantly familiar, then suddenly surprising.

Led musically by keyboard player and arranger Mark Adelman, the Jazz Dynamos have spent the last decade developing a distinctive repertoire that treats classic pop songs with the same inventiveness jazz musicians have long brought to the Great American Songbook. These are clever, affectionate and exuberant reinventions. At the centre is vocalist and percussionist Lucy Randell, whose energy, versatility and command of the stage give the band its irresistible personality.

The Jazz Dynamos have enjoyed numerous sold out performances at jazz venues and festivals throughout the UK and Europe.

Lucy Randell - Vocals and Percussion

Mark Adelman - Keyboard

Anders Janes - Double Bass

Dominique Metz - Drums

Stewart Curtis - Sax, Flute and Piccolo



L♥VE RUNNING

Always proud to support the

IW Jazz Weekend

**10% discount for instrument-wielding
musicians in-store 16th-20th September!**



www.love-running.com



Jazz Jam

Friday's 12:45 to 1:45

Porchfield Village Hall, Isle of Wight, PO30 4LT
(opposite the Sportsman's Rest pub)



Join members of Wight Sax and other musicians for an informal jazz jam playing a variety of jazz standards. All instruments and all abilities welcome. £3 per session covers venue hire, insurance and music. E-mail Wight.Sax@hotmail.com for more info or visit us at www.facebook.com/wight.sax

Wight Music Tuition



www.iwmt.org.uk



Wight Music Tuition

In partnership with the Isle of Wight Music Education Hub



We deliver classroom-based music, small group, and individual instrumental music lessons to children and young people in schools Islandwide

For further enquiries please phone: 07535 578782
Or email: office@iwmt.org.uk

SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

JAZZ EUCHARIST

Newport Minster: 11.00am - 12.15pm

Tickets: none required, free to all

The morning service at the Minster will specifically embrace jazz music as part of the Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend, led musically by the Minster's musical director, Steve Parker and Dan Foster (saxophone).

The service will be led by Rev. Chris Bradish, Team Rector of Newport Parish, who promises a lively, uplifting service as part of the weekend's events.

[K] STEVE WATERMAN OCTET

Apollo Theatre: 1.30 - 3.30pm

Tickets: £15, Under 21's £5

This year marks the centenary of the birth of Miles Davis, one of the most iconic and acclaimed figures in the history of jazz. Celebrating the influence of Miles' legacy, the Steve Waterman Octet presents a selection of music from Miles' complete career, from Birth of the Cool through to Porgy and Bess and the Miles Ahead Gil Evans/Miles Davis collaborations, including Steve's own arrangements of Miles's compositions.



The band feature some of the UK's finest and most popular jazz musicians.

Steve Waterman - Trumpet

Mark Nightingale - Trombone

Alan Barnes - Alto Saxophone

Dave O'Higgins - Tenor Saxophone

Karen Sharp - Baritone Saxophone

Gareth Williams - Piano

Marianne Windham - Bass

Clark Tracey - Drums

[L] LIANE CARROLL TRIO

Newport Minster: 4.15 - 6.30pm

Tickets: £15, Under 21's £5

After a stunning solo performance in 2025, which many festival attendees rated as her best ever, Liane returns in 2026 with her trio.

Liane is very widely regarded, the Observer having noted her as *"One of the most stylistically flexible pianists around, with a marvellous, slightly husky singing voice"*, and the Guardian recognising an *"Ella Fitzgerald-like improv athleticism"*.

Liane's albums have enjoyed 4* and 5* reviews, 'Seaside' winning CD of the year at the 2015 British Jazz awards. A winner of the British Jazz and Parliamentary Jazz Awards, Liane received the 2016 Gold award from the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors.

Liane Carroll - Piano and Vocals

Roger Carey - Bass Guitar

Russell Field - Drums



[M] MATT SKELTON 'BLACKHAWK' QUINTET

Apollo Theatre: 7.15 - 9.30pm

Tickets: £13, Under 21's £5

A night of 'cool jazz' in tribute to one of the greats of the West Coast scene of the 1950s, Shelly Manne, an extraordinary and unique artist who has left an immense legacy of collaborations and recordings.

Matt Skelton's hand picked band celebrates Shelly's 'Blackhawk' Quintet's live performances at the Blackhawk Jazz club in San Francisco over 22-24 September, 1959. Musicians have been chosen for the way they connect with and are inspired by their corresponding original artists, whilst aiming to express their own originality and collective inspiration with the Manne 'Blackhawk' quintet.

With excellent reviews from previous concerts, this promises to be a wonderful trip back in time to reimagine Shelly's legendary performances of September 1959.

Jim Davison - Trumpet

Mark Crooks - Tenor Saxophone

Leon Greening - Piano

Conor Chaplin - Double Bass

Matt Skelton - Drums



**Furniture.
And other lovely things...**








South St. Newport PO30 1JE
(01983) 521011
www.readersinteriors.co.uk

readers
— furniture home gifts —

*proud to support
the Isle of Wight
Jazz Weekend*





Newport and Carisbrooke
Town Council

The IWJW thanks the local council for its continuing support since 2012

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our festival is organised and run by volunteers and nobody receives any payment apart from the musicians and the venues. It would not be possible to run this event without a lot of support and goodwill from a number of people. This year I would like to thank Maxine White (Treasurer), Ian Mitchell (photographer), Bob White (photographer), Isobel Perry (photographer), Cat Rushworth (photographer), Phil Rudd (programme designer and editor), Andy and Debbie Hollebon, Loren Thorn, Sandor Sztankovics, Steve Parkes (equipment hire), Jeff Adams (sound engineer), Martin Dover, Jacquie Tarry, John Clack, Judy Ottaway, Mike Coughlin, Lucy Dover (proof reading), Jo Dover (ferry bookings), all of our stewards, sponsors and venues.

Jim Thorn
IWJW Event Director



RED FUNNEL

is proud to support

ISLE OF WIGHT JAZZ WEEKEND 2026



redfunnel.co.uk

Isle of Wight County Press

THE VOICE OF THE ISLAND

in tune with the
Isle of Wight Jazz Weekend
since 2012

More Jazz Weekend coverage on the Isle of Wight's leading news website
countypress.co.uk