



2026 ANNUAL SHIPWRIGHTS' LECTURES

SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED

Inspiring the next generation • Celebrating our industry

PRESS RELEASE | FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY	TIME	VENUE
20 OCTOBER 2026	14:00–17:30	MAST Mayflower Studios, Southampton

A standout line-up of industry leaders, innovators and emerging talent

The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights has announced the speaker line-up for the 2026 Annual Shipwrights' Lectures. The event will bring together leaders from boatbuilding, high-performance marine technology, broadcasting and professional development, alongside apprentices and young professionals from across the sector.

Generously sponsored by **AkzoNobel** together with the **University of Southampton**, the Lectures remain free of charge. Since their launch in 2011, they have combined technical insight with inspiration and motivation for young people working in the UK yacht, boat design and building industries.

Mike Carr — Keynote Speaker

Joint Founder & Managing Director of **Pendennis Shipyard Ltd**, Mike will share his own story and the **Pendennis** journey, giving the audience a perspective from one of the UK's leading boatbuilding businesses.

Paul Harris — Apprentice and young professional panel

Paul Harris of **Maguire Boats** will lead a panel sharing first-hand experiences from the industry, with representatives from **Berthon Boat Yard**, **Sunseeker**, **Spirit Yachts**, **Pendennis** and **SailGP**.

Manley Hopkinson — “The secret for success and how to turn a threat into an opportunity”

A Global Challenge skipper and internationally acclaimed motivational speaker, Manley will draw on experiences including polar bears and hurricanes, leaving the audience with practical actions that can be applied in all walks of life.

Oliver Pendleton — BAR Technologies Project Manager

Oliver will share the experience and lessons learned from the inaugural battery-powered foiling motor-launch challenge for the Harmsworth Trophy, involving the SpiritBARTech F35 built by **Spirit Yachts** with foiling and battery-power technology from **BAR Technologies**.

Dan Lee Boatbuilding — Wooden boat building in the modern world

A growing social-media presence whose paint and varnish courses are booking quickly, Dan will guide the audience through traditional boatbuilding and modern methods.

Matt Sheahan — Race-to-commercial technology panel

The broadcaster will chair a discussion on technology transfer from race boats to commercial vessels, with participation from organisations including **SailGP**, **Artemis Technologies**, **BAR Technologies** and the **University of Southampton**. The discussion will focus particularly on lessons from wing and foil control systems and how this technology is moving into commercial craft.

The King's Silver Medal — A life-changing industry challenge

Organisers of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights' prestigious annual competition will explain the opportunity and its impact across the marine industry. Guy Campbell will reveal as much as he can about the challenge while leaving the rest for future applicants to discover.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



Also: State of the industry updates, an address from the Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, an introduction to our new sponsor, and plenty of time to meet and network with colleagues and industry professionals.

“The Lectures are designed to be partly technical, but always to inspire and motivate young people.”

— 2026 Annual Shipwrights' Lectures

EVENT AT A GLANCE

Date	Tuesday 20 October 2026
Time	14:00–17:30
Venue	MAST Mayflower Studios, Southampton
Admission	Free of charge

ABOUT THE LECTURES

The Annual Shipwrights' Lectures began in 2011 and are intended to inform, inspire and motivate people entering and developing careers in yacht and boat design, construction and the wider marine industry. The programme blends technical content, career stories, industry leadership and emerging technology.



REGISTER FOR THE 2026 LECTURES

Scan the QR code to register for the Annual Shipwrights' Lectures. Admission is free of charge.

PRESS / EDITOR NOTES

For publication enquiries, interview requests, images and attendance information, please contact the Shipwrights' Lectures organisers. Further event information is available from the Shipwrights' Lectures website.

www.shipwrights.co.uk/shipwrights-lectures or email: simoncrawford@marineware.com

 [Follow the Shipwrights' Lectures on Instagram](#)

 Follow the Shipwrights' Lectures on Facebook

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY

