

## Spotlight

The Spotlight feature shines a light on aspects of our industry that you might not know much about. In this edition we will be focusing on Island Ribs who are based on the Isle of Wight.

**Designers and manufacturers  
of rigid inflatable boats**

***Island* RIBS**

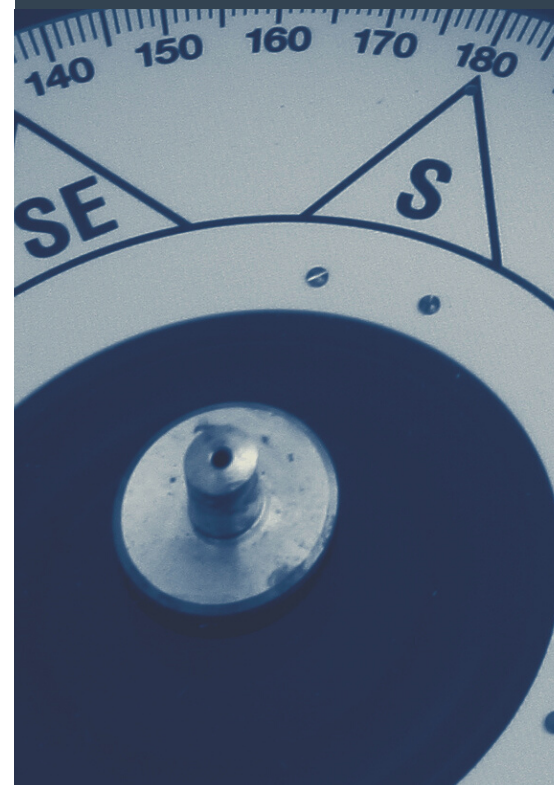
Island RIBs' hull design is perfected from 20 years of development in the Solent and Irish sea, where confused waters throw unexpected challenges. The RIBs give an incredibly dry and smooth ride thanks to a high bow, deep forefoot and, very importantly, weight distribution. This is a key aspect in their design as the longitudinal centre of buoyancy shifts depending on the boats speed. The hull provides low planing speeds even with high cargo loads and has an incredibly low resistance at optimal cruising speeds (30-35 knts) to allow the bow to cut through a standing head sea.



These boats are built to deal with rough seas with their moulded splashwell at the stern, providing increased structure and ensuring the safety of crew onboard the vessel. Island RIBs fit hand moulded polycarbonate windscreens rather than the industry standard acrylic. These windscreens are completely shatterproof and coated to provide UV protection.

"If you have  
knowledge, let  
others light  
their candles in  
it"

MARGARET FULLER



## Spotlight cont.

The RIBs are used by the likes of British Antarctic Survey for scientific research and diving operations, Sea Start marine services for break down recovery, and Williams Shipping for commercial operations. Island RIBs' 7.5m series craft are type tested to MCA cat. 3 (R), allowing commercial operators to work up to 20 miles from a safe haven. This is the maximum category possible for an open boat.

Island RIBs know how to build RIBs with meticulous detail. The young team have an uncompromising focus on quality from moulding the monocoque structure to internal fit-out. This process is procedurally controlled and monitored ensuring every boat is built to the same high standards.

Island RIBs design, build and train in-house. The team consists of shipwrights, Apprentices, development and marine engineers. They have admirable connections with the Lloyds register foundation and International institute of marine surveyors, and are regularly asked to voice their knowledge to organisations such as British Marine with regard to the future of ISO compliance.

For more information or to get in contact with the team email [info@island-ribs.co.uk](mailto:info@island-ribs.co.uk) or call on 01983 242727.

"Strive for  
perfection in  
everything you  
do. Take the  
best that exists  
and make it  
better. When it  
does not exist,  
design it."

SIR HENRY ROYCE