Grit & Growth - Lessons From Leaders Who've Been There

18:00 - 10:30 | 17/09/2025 | Pomme d'Or Hotel

Book now →



Join the IoD Jersey for an engaging event designed to foster connections, share practical insights, and inspire attendees through the real-life experiences of established entrepreneurs. Whether you're starting out or scaling up, this event offers valuable lessons, honest conversations, and a supportive network to help guide your entrepreneurial path.

Book here

Event Highlights:

- Keynote Speaker: Steve Hewitt – Founder of Whanau and previously CEO, Gymshark
- Panel: Allan Wood – CCO & Founding Partner, Hizzy; Mark Brider – CEO, Birmingham Women's & Children's NHS Foundation Trust; Panel facilitated by Mariota Smutz – Chair, IoD Jersey Industry Sub-Committee
- Q&A – Opening up questions with the floor with facilitator and panel

Success Stories from Established Entrepreneurs

Hear from a panel of accomplished entrepreneurs as they share their journeys—highlighting the pivotal moments, challenges faced, and strategies that led to their success.

Learning from Failure: Case Studies of Start-up Setbacks

Failure is often a stepping stone to growth. Discover key lessons from failed ventures, and explore how entrepreneurs have successfully pivoted and rebuilt.

Navigating Start-up Challenges

Delve into the common hurdles faced by start-ups—funding, scaling, team building, and market adaptation—and gain practical advice from those who've been there.

Sustainability & Social Entrepreneurship

Explore how emerging businesses can integrate sustainability into their models and the growing importance of social impact in today's entrepreneurial landscape.

Diversity & Inclusion in Entrepreneurship

Learn how embracing diverse perspectives fosters innovation and strengthens the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Work-Life Balance for Entrepreneurs

Gain insights into maintaining personal well-being while growing a business, with strategies for achieving a healthier work-life balance in a high-pressure environment.

Agenda

- 18:00 - Event to Start
- 18:00– Introduction by IoD Jersey Chair, Alex Ruddy
- 18:10 – Sponsor Welcome by Dane Bryans, Managing Director, Resolution IT

- 18:15 – Alex Ruddy to introduce Keynote Speaker, Steve Hewitt
- 18:20 – Panel Introduction – Allan Wood, Mark Brider, Steve Hewitt & Mariota Smutz
- 18:30 – Panel discussion, facilitated by Mariota Smutz
- 19:10 – Q&A to the room
- 19:45 – Lunch served
- 20:15 – Lunch closed
- 20:15 – Fireside Chat with Mark Brider & Steve Hewitt – Topic Leadership & Steve's experience in growing a start-up.
- 20:55 – Q&A to the room
- 21:25 – Alex Ruddy – Closing words
- 21:30 – Event Close

An opportunity to stay on networking from 21:30 to 22:30

Connect with like-minded individuals, fellow entrepreneurs, and organisations supporting the IoD. Discover how these collaborations are driving innovation and positive change across the island's business community.