

Ventnor & District Local History Society

Local History Walk: *Ventnor, Cradle of the Russian Revolution*

We are pleased to announce that on 10 October 2021 we are offering another chance to take part in this intriguingly titled walk, first held during Ventnor Fringe in July.



More about the walk:

Stephan Roman's recently published book, *Isle and Empires* (Medina publishing, 2021) explores the close connections between the Isle of Wight and Romanov Russia, and describes how while the Imperial family visited Cowes, their opponents flocked to Ventnor, which became an active centre for radical Russians. It was here in Ventnor that political thinkers like Alexander Herzen, and writers like Count A.K Tolstoy and Ivan Turgenev created a summer colony where liberal views were freely explored and debated and where the foundations for the 1917 Russian Revolution were laid.

Ventnor, Cradle of the Russian Revolution is a fascinating walk around Ventnor in the footsteps of Russia's political radicals, writers and poets. It also offers the chance to learn something about Ventnor as it was in the 1850s and 60s, how it grew to become one of England's most popular seaside towns in the nineteenth century and why so many Russian and European radicals were attracted here. Author Stephan Roman leads the walk, accompanied by a volunteer from the Society.

Starting at 10 am outside the Ventnor Winter Gardens, the walk finishes two hours later at the Heritage Centre on Spring Hill, where those taking part are offered free entry to the Museum where there are exhibitions on the early development of the town, and on the Russian dissidents who stayed here.

How to book a place on the walk:

Local History Walk: Ventnor, Cradle of the Russian Revolution

Sunday 10 October 2021: 10 am - 12 midday. Price: £10 per person, with 15 places available.

Please note that while most of the walk is on the flat, there is one steep section.

To book a place and for payment details please contact Stephan Roman: stephan.roman@gmail.com