

ROBERT HICKMAN

MCA MASTER 3000GT

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Home: Isle of Wight, UK
Current Location: France / UK



General
D.O.B.: 18.05.1975 (47)
Nationality: British
Marital status: Married, no children
COVID Vaccination: 2 + Booster
Health: Excellent; unrestricted ENG1
Smoking: Genuine non-smoker
Driving Licence: Full clean
Memberships: Yacht Club de Monaco, Nautilus

Profile & Background Being a seasoned professional with excellent longevity and a proven track record, I am known for taking my work and responsibilities seriously whilst always remaining professional.

As a calm and level-headed Captain, I believe in being humble, well mannered, hardworking, and good-humoured, and leading my crew by the same example.

My work ethos, love of water and sense of adventure were all fostered at Pangbourne Nautical College, a former training College for Officers entering the Merchant Navy. Many traditions were still maintained during my tenure, including naval Officers uniforms, daily parades, armed guard, marching band etc. Whilst there I gained valuable skills and attributes including discipline, presentation, respect and leadership; all values I still maintain to this day and bring to the workplace.

My wife and I live on the Southwest coast of the Isle of Wight in the UK with our dogs where we run a small B&B and holiday let.

Marine Industry Work History
June 16 - Present Captain, MY White Star, 50m, 528GT, Trinity, 2004

The vessel sold in June 2016, and I was requested to remain as Captain by the new Owners. Immediately followed 12 weeks of Owners Summer cruising. I then took White Star to Pendennis Shipyard, Falmouth UK for major refit works in 2016/2017 and then again in 2017/2018 with Med cruising seasons in-between. Both refits were project managed by myself. Subsequently White Star won 2nd place in the 2018 World Superyacht Refit of the Year awards. The vessel is used heavily in the Summer with the Owners living onboard full-time from June to October each year. Currently for sale

Jan 15 - June 16 Captain, MY White Star, 47m, 499GT, Trinity, 2004

I was personally approached and asked to take over the Captaincy by the outgoing Captain who moved full time onto managing the owners new build 72m project. We were in the 2015 MYS & 2016 ECPY and received huge praise for the standard and condition in which she had been maintained to. All original crew left to the new-build and I re-crewed the vessel accordingly.

Mar 13 – July 14 Captain, MY Larissa, 40m, 286GT, Sunseeker Predator, 2010

I was asked to Captain this vessel by Owners fleet Captain. I joined this vessel and delivered her to Tunisia from the Riviera to complete her sale. On our return I dealt with all the incumbent paperwork, and the change of name to Larissa. An intense maintenance period began with the overhaul of the vessels AC, insulation, black/grey tanks, navigation equipment and general improvements along with flag and class inspections, to make her season ready. I then delivered her to Lebanon for the owners use where it was used both locally and in Cyprus before returning back via Greece & the Corinth Canal to Italy & France for the 2014 season. In July 2014 the vessel was sold and re-crewed with the new Owner's Russian staff.

Nov 09 – Nov 12 Chief Officer, MY Alibi, 52m, 663GT, CBI Navi, 2005

Alibi cruised extensively within the Mediterranean with a busy owner and charter itinerary. Due to Alibi being over 500GT, my duties included implementing all ISPS and ISM procedures, liaising with the management company, and carrying out all on board drills, training and re-certification. The Captain gave me free reign to run the vessel as I saw fit. During my tenure, the vessel underwent a 5-year survey, Lloyds, Cayman and Port State Control inspections, all passed with no issues. I used the IDEA planned vessel maintenance program, which was used to monitor and update all the ships certification and drill/maintenance schedules. I was the Safety Officer aboard and the Ships Security Officer and responsible for the implementation of the Ships Security Plan and the ships Safety Management Plan on board, I was also the ships Navigational Officer. During the season she operated with a crew of 12 and accommodated up to 12 guests. The vessel has undergone a number of yard periods including a hull re-paint, which I ran during the Captains absence. I also ran a deck crew of 3, implementing maintenance and cleaning schedules, training, and rotas. I gained parking, close quarter handling and regular drive time experience.

March 06 – Oct 09 Captain, SY Halcyon, 30m 1929 Classic Ketch

A stunning 1929 classic yacht steeped in history. I was involved with the £1m+ restoration project from its inception and had an integral role in her re-design and development, working closely with the shipwrights, management and the owner. I also worked directly in setting up and developing all aspects of the charter business and website development. Running with a permanent crew of 4 she could accommodate up to 8 guests for charter. Her busy charter itinerary of over 15,000nm in three seasons encompassed the British Isles including Southern Ireland, Wales, the West coast of Scotland and the fjords of Norway.

July 05 – March 06 Freelance Captain, RMH Marine Solutions

Self-employed freelance work which included both corporate and private skippered yacht charter work, RIB driving and motor yacht skippering, yacht maintenance including varnishing, filling and fairing, antifouling, fibreglass work.

October 05 Watch Keeper, Delivery, MY Solemar, 60m Amels

A transatlantic delivery that gave me a valuable insight into the workings of a well-run super yacht. I embraced the opportunity and used it to take celestial sights for my YM Ocean qualification and to familiarise myself with the latest in bridge technology at that time.

Oct 04 – Sept 05 Captain, MSY Tricana, 67ft, Classic Dutch Steel Ketch

Management, organisation and participation in an 11 month £150K refit of this classic ketch. Jobs included: budgeting and purchasing, regular contact with the broker and owner, re-plumbing, re-wiring, complete interior and exterior varnishing, carpentry, total shot blasting and repainting, teak deck repair, and the installation of new navigation equipment, air conditioning and hydraulic pumps. This was a very hands-on role which utilised a number of skill sets. Once the project was complete the owner placed the vessel on the market for sale.

Feb 04 – Oct 04 Captain, Red Sail Sports, Grand Cayman

Skippering 65-foot Catamarans with up to 70 guests on board involved a number of skills. Primarily safety, leadership, teamwork and good seamanship. We catered for individual charters, day sails, dinners, sunset cruises, happy hours and snorkel trips. My role was to provide the guests with a memorable and enjoyable experience within the framework of safety. Employment ceased due to the devastation of the Island caused by Hurricane Ivan.

Dec 03 & Feb 04 Mate, North Sea Yacht Deliveries

May 03 – Nov 03 Senior Cruising Instructor, Sunsail Club Marverde, Turkey

Apr 02 - Nov 02 Watersports Instructor, Sunsail Club Galini, Greece

Oct 01 - Mar 02 Mate, SY Sheba Queen (Dynamique 64'), Caribbean

Summer 2001 Rescue Boat Driver, Mark Warner Club Punta Licosa, Italy

Previous Work History

Winter 2001 Handyman/Barman/Driver, Mark Warner, Meribel, France
1999 – 2000 Software Engineer, Business Logic Systems, Newbury
1998 - 1999 Marquee Erector, Complete Events, Newbury
1997 – 1998 Travelling: Africa, SE Asia, Australia, NZ, USA
1994 – 1997 Fitness Instructor, Nottingham Trent Uni and Notts City Council

Sailing Qualifications & Certificates

Master (Yachts) 3000GT
Cayman Endorsement
Transas Rating
Ships Security Officer & Proficiency in Designated Security Duties
STCW95 (valid to April 2027)

Other Qualifications

BSc.(Hons.) Combined Studies In Sciences (Biology with Computer Science)
3 A Levels, 1 AS Level, 9 GCSE's
PADI Advanced Diver
Fitness Instructor (NVQ Level 2)
British Parachute Association Skydiving Licence - expired
Private Pilots Licence (with Instrument & Night ratings) – expired

Education

1993 - 1996 Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham
1986 - 1993 Pangbourne Nautical College, Berkshire

Interests

I am a very keen sportsman enjoying a variety of disciplines, including sailing, windsurfing, kitesurfing, rugby, squash, swimming and general health and fitness. I also love animals (especially dogs, I have 2), walking, the Isle of Wight, spending time with my family and reading the occasional book.

References

Available upon request