



Robin Sermon

Commercial Yachtmaster & Powerboat Sailing, Powerboat & Inland Waterways Instructor

Sailing Experience and Background

I have been sailing for over 50 years, both offshore and inland; in Yachts, Dinghies, Keelboats and Motor Boats. My experience also ranges across cruising, racing and teaching in all of the above.

Offshore Sailing

I have extensive racing and cruising experience in various waters and on a wide range of vessels, from small yachts to Thames Barges, and including multiple seasons of JOG racing, some RORC racing including the Fastnet Race and cruising in various waters (Solent and South Coast, Normandy, Brittany and the Channel Islands, South West, East Coast, North Sea, Western Mediterranean, Atlantic coasts of Spain & Portugal) I am a highly experienced skipper with excellent boat management and crew management abilities. In recent years, I have worked as a freelance instructor for several sailing schools in the UK and Gibraltar.

Keelboat Sailing

Most of my keelboat experience has been cruising and racing the traditional yachts and keelboats of the Norfolk Broads. As well as being a successful race helm I have introduced many beginners to Broads sailing and have written a guide to navigating through Great Yarmouth in a yacht with no engine.

Dinghy Sailing

I have extensive experience as a successful racer in both team and individual racing and in multiple classes. I team raced for both my school and my university and have been a successful club racer in both 505's and Laser 2's. I have spent a full season as a full-time instructor (in Wayfarers) as well as providing instruction and coaching in club settings over many years. I have good experience of support roles, (race officer, safety boat etc.).

Powerboating

I have wide experience in a range of powered vessels both in support of sail-based activities and in their own right. I hold a commercially endorsed Advanced Certificate of Competence and Safety Boat certificate.

Inland Waterways

In addition to extensive experience on the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads, both sail and power I have wide experience on the canal and river network, in both narrow boats and cruisers. (Grand Union Canal, River Thames, Skipton Canal, Oxford Canal, River Nene, Rivers Ure & Ouse & Ripon Canal).

MCA/STCW Qualifications

- MCA/Amerc General Operator's Certificate
- STCW Medical First Aid at Sea
- STCW Medical Care at Sea
- STCW Personal Survival Techniques
- STCW HELM (Operational Level)
- STCW Personal Safety and Social Responsibility
- STCW Proficiency in Security Awareness
- STCW Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting

RYA Instructor Qualifications

- RYA Yachtmaster Instructor
- RYA Shorebased Instructor
- RYA Powerboat Instructor (Including Safety Boat)
- RYA Dinghy and Keelboat Instructor
- RYA Inland Waterways Instructor
- RYA VHF/SRC Assessor

Other RYA Qualifications and Courses

- RYA Commercial Yachtmaster Offshore
- RYA Professional Practices & Responsibilities

- RYA Safe and Fun
- RYA First Aid
- RYA Diesel Engines
- RYA Commercial Advanced Powerboat CoC
- RYA Radar
- RYA Sea Survival
- RYA/ISAF Offshore Safety
- CEVNI
- ICC (Sail, Power, PWC. Coastal and Inland)
- Short Range Certificate
- RYA Safety Boat
- RYA Keelboat Seamanship
- RYA Intermediate Dayboat
- RYA Inland Waterways Helmsman
- RYA Yachtmaster Ocean Theory

Teaching Experience

In addition to my formal and informal experience as a sailing instructor I have extensive teaching experience across multiple outdoor disciplines, including more than 10 years as a full-time multiple activities instructor. (Caving, rock climbing, hill walking and canoeing). As a caving specialist I have taught and assessed leaders and instructors, served as honorary Training Officer to the National Caving Association and been deeply involved in the development of national training and assessment schemes. I also have wide experience of outdoor activities as a means of developing teamwork and management skills, including designing and delivering highly customised events and courses to meet clients' specific objectives.

Professional Background

As somebody who has had two separate successful career paths, I bring a wealth of professional and managerial experience. I am qualified to Postgraduate Certificate level (Enterprise Network Management) and have a solid track record in the IT industry, mostly designing and implementing major change projects for large corporations. I have excellent managerial and communication skills and am a highly experienced project manager, as well as having been director of a successful IT consultancy.

During my earlier outdoor career, as well as the skills and experience mentioned above, I was a successful team manager and senior instructor as well as making a significant contribution to pre-sales activities.

General

I am a British Citizen and have formal residency in Spain

I am in excellent health and hold a current ENG1 medical certificate.

I am very comfortable with travelling for work and have had experience of working in many European countries. I speak limited conversational French and Spanish.

I hold a current, clean driving licence (including B1, C1, C1E, D1, D1E). I am an Institute of Advanced Motorists Advanced Driver and Advanced Motorcyclist. I have extensive experience of driving minibuses and of towing.

I hold a Level 2 City & Guilds Food Safety and Hygiene certificate.

I have an up to date enhanced DBS check for working with children

I am a highly motivated, results centred person, with excellent interpersonal skills. I have the ability to quickly establish good working relationships with both colleagues and clients. I bring, alongside my specific skills, a breadth and depth of ability and experience which would be an asset to any organisation.

Contact

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References

- Martin Sully (msully24664@hotmail.co.uk) - Yachtmaster Instructor
- Martin Banfield (martin@banfield.gb.net) – Former Yachtmaster Instructor. Secretary and former Captain of JOG