



Name: Christopher Robson

DOB: 17/04/1989

Grew up: Newcastle Upon Tyne

Currently Living: Edinburgh

Occupation: Property Manager

Sailing/ Yacht Club: N/A

Position on Boat: Trimmer/ Helm

First sailing experience: 4 weeks old, strapped into a bunk on a Sigma 38...pretty sure I had nothing to do with sailing the boat that day!

Greatest sailing goal: Fastnet Race, Sydney – Hobart and ultimately the Volvo Ocean Race.



Greatest sailing achievement to date: Crossing the Pacific through 2 hurricanes.

Most memorable sailing experience: Sailing 4,000 miles jury rigged with a bent spreader and going through 2 hurricanes during the Pacific leg of Clipper Round the World.

Meet the sailor...

Greatest strength you bring to the academy?

- *Setting high standards and high expectations of myself.*
- *Sense of humour.*

Most influential person in your sailing career to date? *Dad, ex-coxswain on the Tynemouth lifeboat and very well respected sailor on the North East coast – always taught me to respect the sea.*

What do you hope to achieve from joining the Keelboat Academy?

- *New friendships.*
- *Competitive sailing at the highest level.*
- *The privilege of being in a British team.*

If you could compete in any Keelboat event what event would it be and why? Volvo Ocean Race – Ultimate offshore challenge against nature in formula 1 boats.

My worst moment (sailing)?

My first ever gale in the North Sea, I think I was about 12 and have never been so nervous in my life.

Best sailing venue in the UK? Loch Fyne, Scotland – fantastic scenery, always wind, relatively flat seas, and always a good local pub nearby.

Top 3 career sailing results:

- 1) 1st – Hummingbird – North East Coast Week
- 2) 1st – Nijinsky – Kip Regatta
- 3) 2nd – Nijinsky - IRCs

Other notable achievements away from sailing?

Scholarship to Merchiston Castle School – Very lucky to be able to go to such a prestigious school, certainly influenced my life in a big way, allowing me to be independent and make my own decisions at a young age...whether right or wrong.

Murray and Currie Bursary – Sponsored me through my 4th year of university – Still allows me today to work in a great team with a fantastic, professional attitude, who are passionate about their work.

Other interests away from sailing?

I enjoy a variety of outdoor sports from scuba diving and surfing to rugby and rock climbing. Socialising with friends, also a prolific fifa PS3 player!

What's your greatest fear or phobia?

Horses!

Who is your hero and why?

Sailing Hero – Sir Peter Blake – Putting sailing on the map as a professional sport, and showed some amazing feats of seamanship, as well as being a winner.

Sir Bobby Robson – Proud Geordie Gent, and no I'm not related to him.