



NEIL PAYNE

DOB: 19/07/1991

Grew up: Born in Plymouth grew up near Leicester

Currently Living: Portsmouth

Occupation: Civil Engineering student at Portsmouth University

Sailing/ Yacht Club: Draycote Water Sailing Club

Position on Boat: Trim



First sailing experience: Sailing with my dad and my brother in a miracle dinghy aged 13.

Greatest sailing goal: To win the Americas Cup for Great Britain

Greatest sailing achievement to date: Finishing 6th at the 2010 BUSA Yacht Nationals in my first year of yacht sailing

Most memorable sailing experience: Racing 29ers in 25-30kts in Portland Harbour.

Meet the sailor...

Greatest strength you bring to the academy? *Determination*

Most influential person in your sailing career to date? *Would have to be my Dad!*

What do you hope to achieve from joining the Keelboat Academy? *Become a more professional and well-rounded sailor, improving weaknesses such as campaign planning and weather prediction.*

If you could compete in any Keelboat event what event would it be and why? *The Americas Cup as it's the pinnacle of worldwide sailing, closely followed by the Medcup for cool factor!*

Top 3 career sailing results if applicable:

- 1) 6th BUSA Yacht Nationals 2010
- 2) 4th J Cup 2010 J80 Class
- 3) 22nd 29er National Championships 2008

Other notable achievements away from sailing? *Being selected out of 300+ cadets to meet the Duke of Westminster on an officer experience course at the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth*

Other interests away from sailing? *Motorsport, Cycling.*

Who is your hero and why? *John Bertrand for ending 132 years of American Supremacy to win the Americas Cup for Australia.*