



Name: Sam Cooper

DOB: 14/11/1993

Grew up: Leamington Spa

Currently Living: Balsall Common, Coventry

Occupation: College Student

Sailing/ Yacht Club: Not found one...yet

Position on Boat: Bow/Mast

First sailing experience: I had a sailing lesson in La Baule on some 14ft beach cat type thing around 7 years ago

Greatest sailing goal: To win the America's Cup

Greatest sailing achievement to date: Finishing 2nd overall in the Commodore's Cup on Joopster with GBR White

Most memorable sailing experience: Rounding the Fastnet Rock last year

Meet the sailor...

Greatest strength you bring to the academy? I bring my competitive attitude and desire to improve my skills and those of other people around me.

Most influential person in your sailing career to date? It's hard as there have been so many people who have helped me out, too many to list.

What do you hope to achieve from joining the Keelboat Academy? I hope to take my sailing skill to a professional level and gain many important contacts.

If you could compete in any Keelboat event what event would it be and why? I would compete in the America's Cup because it is the ultimate trophy in sailing and is at the forefront of sailing technology



My worst moment (sailing)? The offshore race in this years Commodore's cup, either that or the round the island race in this years Commodore's Cup

Best sailing venue in the UK? The Solent

Top 3 career sailing results:

- 1) 2nd in the Commodore's on J122 Joopster with GBR White
- 2) 9th Overall in the 2011 RORC season with Grand Soleil 54 John B
- 3) 1st IRC 2 Dartmouth regatta 2009 with J109 J-Dream

Other notable achievements away from sailing? I won a Charity cross country bike race in 2008, I've won a couple of skiing medals in the past as well.

Other interests away from sailing? Cycling, skiing and I also took an interest in reading more recently

What's your greatest fear or phobia? Without a doubt spiders or anything with more than 4 legs

Who is your hero and why? Lance Armstrong, despite what some people think I have always admired how someone can come back from an illness such as cancer and can not only achieve something truly great but also help others along the way...a true inspiration.

Any famous relatives?! Somewhere along the line someone in my family married into the Thai royal family, other than that I can't think of anyone!