

Ian Winson's Profile



My interest in boats started very young as I was dragged out in sailing dinghies at the age of about 7 by my father. We then raced nationally in dinghies, and I was crew before turning into the helm on single handers as he moved to yachts. During this time, as a crew member and also as a helm we were very successful on the racing circuits. I was trained for safety boats and rescue at sailing clubs as they developed in larger clubs, ie Queen Mary Sailing Club near Sunbury when it opened and also then some coastal racing at Salcombe and Portsmouth. I also developed a keen interest in windsurfing down at Hayling Island and Cornwall which became my main sport and to this day the works van is still loaded and ready to go!

These passions developed into my own business which commenced in 2005 running and owning a charter boat for trips on The South Coast of England. I am the director and operate and run this RIB charter business based from Hamble Southampton. I hold an advanced Powerboat Certification commercially endorsed, alongside Powerboat Instructor and Safety Boat. We organise charter days on the water in RIBs, Motor Cruisers and Yachts, all sub 24 metre vessels and fitting within the present Maritime and Coastguard regulations under MGN280.

In 2007 I was introduced to The Professional Charter Association (PCA) by the then Chairman who remains as a director and Vice Chair within the PCA. After some time as a member, I joined the team as a vice chair of RIBs and commenced a long journey to improve safety and enhance the association. At that time another Director has been always involved with The MCA at all reviews of the sub 24metre boat codes and was part of the team introducing MGN 280 as the colour codes were amalgamated. I joined this Director attending all MCA meetings on coding issues. This continued for some 4 years until his untimely death, and I took on the PCA role at MCA code meetings. I also was elected the Chair of The PCA in 2017 (and remain so to the present date) and also became a Director as the association moved to become a Ltd Company and moved away from the umbrella with a Certifying Authority.

The PCA has been at the forefront of improving standards and safety in all areas and we are still part of the interested parties attending MCA meetings covering the introduction of the Brown Code (workboat code) and the new colour codes under review away from MGN 280. We have become as an association, The Independent Voice of the Boat Charter Industry. We also attend reviews with other interested industry parties of marine accidents in our sub 24metre class at The MAIB and MCA.