



Meet Our Crew: *Jan Ridd, Berthing Officer*

Name one thing that makes you feel proud to work at Weymouth Harbour.

When I worked as a sailing instructor, Weymouth was one of my favourite ports to visit as it definitely has the 'WOW' factor when arriving from sea. It is the postcard of an English seaside/harbour-side town and always was a high point of the course; so I feel proud to be part of the team helping to deliver that experience to visiting sailors.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I still do not know what I want to be when I grow up! I have always had the sea as a large part of my life though, and knew that I whatever I ended up doing, it would involve the sea.

What's the one thing you know now that you wish you'd known when you were younger?

Not to worry so much; that however bad life looks at the time, things normally turn out alright in the end.

What's your favourite book or album and why?

'South' by Ernest Shackleton - a record of his expedition to attempt to cross Antarctica. It was given to me on a long ocean crossing. It is an accurate record and shows his determination and his command ability to keep his team alive in the most inhospitable conditions, I found it moving and inspiring. It is my go to book when starting a long voyage and I have read it several times. I have recently re-read after discovering one of the seasonal staff working at the harbour this summer is a descendant of Shackleton himself!

What would people be surprised to learn about you?

That I have circumnavigated the world 2 times as Skipper of a 70' racing yacht (Clipper Ventures 3rd overall 09/10 race).

Personal philosophy or mantra?

I agree with Nike "just do it"! We all find so many reasons not to do things, it amazes me that some people manage to do anything at all, so just do it!

What is your favourite place on earth?

There are so many but I do really like Cape Town, South Africa.

If you have a bucket list, what is the top item on it?

I love skiing, snowboarding and being in the mountains, so would like to in the Alps for a couple of years to become really good at snow sports, and to appreciate the change of the seasons.

When are you happiest?

Sailing a yacht downwind, across an ocean surfing down large ocean swells with a crew of good friends. The exhilaration of the yacht accelerating as it takes off is a high which is hard to top.