



by CAPTAIN MICHAEL HOWORTH (www.thehoworths.com)



CUSTOM BUILT for an experienced yachtsman whose love of sport dominates his life, the 78.5 metre **Hampshire II** has been launched at the Feadship van Lent yard in Kaag, Holland.

Built around every conceivable sporting activity, including a football area on the foredeck, the yacht also offers exceptional facilities for those who like to take things a little easier.

During the launch ceremony Feadship director Dick van Lent paid tribute to the yacht's owner saying "It has been a pleasure and a privilege to create such a unique vessel for such a passionate sailor. He added, "He really appreciates the qualities of a Feadship and the fun of being closely involved in the design and construction process. This is exactly the sort of client we love to work with, and this is exactly the kind of superyacht that owners who build here deserve.

Superyacht Captain has reason to recall Titanic sinking

HARDLY A MAGAZINE a newspaper, radio or a TV station failed to mention the loss of the White Star Liner **Titanic** as people around the world remember the disaster. To some it is just history but to others it is personal.

In Australia superyacht Richard Morris has more reason than most to remember the anniversary of the sinking - his great grandfather was a member of the ships company.

Arthur W Morris was a greaser in the engine room on the liner when it set sail from Southampton 100 years ago. He was among the 1,514 who died.

Richards own Grandfather, Frank, was just six years old when Arthur went down with the world's largest passenger liner, sinking in the early hours of April 15 in 1912 after hitting a giant iceberg.

Richard Morris said: "It was a huge tragedy. The family were devastated. Imagine what it was like back then, with no news, no knowledge.

"My great-grandmother, Eleanor, had to wait for information and it hit the whole community incredibly hard.

"The family were so upset they prevented my Grandfather from going to sea. Then my own father, Geoff, was also told he wasn't allowed to go; they just wanted him to get a normal job because they considered it a risk.

But he ran away to sea at 15 anyway and he became a Master Mariner. If it wasn't for him I wouldn't have had the chance to get involved in superyachts."

Richard, now 45, has been working with boats since he was a teenager. He said: "I feel privileged and proud to have a link to this. It means a lot to me. I am carrying on what is almost like a family business."

"My own father came to live in Australia in 1964 where he soon settled down and started a family.

When Richard ran superyachts he played host to some of the world's richest people, boasting presidents and movie stars among his clients. He has sailed with Prince Albert of Monaco, Bill Gates, Reg Grundy, Elizabeth Taylor and Jennifer Aniston.

He now runs Australian Superyachts, an all encompassing superyacht consultancy business which he set up in Sydney in 1999.

Virginian completes refit in Great Britain

IT SEEMS THAT THE OWNERS of the superyacht **Virginian** have a penchant for refitting their yacht in Great Britain. She was the first ever superyacht to be fitted out in the Royal Navy's Shipyard in Plymouth during 1999 and more recently by the Falmouth based Pendennis shipyard. During her time in Falmouth works undertaken included general maintenance work, minor interior modifications and an annual survey alongside a full topside repaint and installation of new Naiad

Zero Speed stabilisers. The very distinctive blue hulled 62.23m superyacht was built by Feadship in 1990 and handed over to the JCB owning Blandford Family in 1991.





Hakvoort can now build superyachts of up to 63 metres

AS PART OF THEIR STRATEGY to steadily grow in order to build larger yachts, a new slipway that allows Hakvoort to build superyachts up to 63 metres overall has been put into operation

Having raised the roof of the main construction hall by two metres in 2009 to build four-deck vessels, the yard's new slipway was opened recently.

Offering a maximum lift of 1,000 tonnes, the slipway allows the yard to build 63 metre superyachts with a beam of 11.60 metres.

"We are now in a position to bid for new 50-metre-plus projects,"

says Klaas Hakvoort. "Our yard is highly competitive in this size bracket due to our lean overheads and very high quality levels".

In addition, the newly laid out facilities include flat surface concrete walkways and dock flooring. A heating system can create an even temperature throughout all sections of the hall, enhancing exterior paint and finishing.

To support the construction of larger yachts the firm is in the process of upgrading the yards main power supply and infrastructure, tripling its current capacity.

Third of Vitruvius Yachts Reaches Italy for Fitting Out

IN FRONT OF an invited group of some 24 internationally based superyacht journalists, the Italian based Perini Navi Group have unveiled the hull of their new 73m motor yacht hull number; C.2189.

She is the third motor yacht sold by the Group that has been created in collaboration with Vitruvius and designer Philippe Briand. She arrived at the Picchiotti shipyard in La Spezia, on May 4th having been towed from Perini Istanbul Yildiz, the Turkish facility of the Group.

C.2189 was created, like the 50 metre **Exuma** 50m the slightly larger **Galileo G** before her, for those who want to cruise safely and efficiently in comfort and with total autonomy.

This new generation of motor yachts has a characteristic hull and superstructure shape, a new concept for interior spaces and ample room dedicated to storage for tenders and watercraft.

The yacht, the flagship of the Picchiotti-Vitruvius family, has a diesel / electric propulsion system that runs two ABB Azipods and has a maximum cruising speed of 16.5 knots.

Encouraging numbers of Far Eastern clients attend the Hainan Rendezvous

ENCOURAGED BY high numbers of Far Eastern clients attending the Hainan Rendezvous Fraser Yachts their stand was visited by a good number of their qualified clients from across the region.

There are very encouraging signs that more and more people are developing a strong interest in superyacht ownership and charter. The show had doubled in size since 2011 and almost every major yachting company was represented, as well as a wide range of other luxury products, from watches and jewellery to supercars and private jets.

Yachting is still a new concept for most people in main land China so our brokers undertook a series of detailed guided tours of Helix to point out design features, layout options and technical aspects. Being relatively new to the world of superyachts this was a great way to help our guests understand more about the complexities of yacht construction, acquisition and ownership.

Renamed as M5, Mirabella arrives for refit in the UK



BUILT AS **MIRABELLA V** for Joe Vittoria the worlds largest slooped rigged superyacht was sold recently to an owner who has renamed her **M5**. Assembling a team that includes Naval Architects Ron Holland Design and Interior Designers Redman Whiteley Dixon the yacht is to be refitted at the Pendennis Shipyard in Falmouth where she has now arrived. During the visit the stern will be redesigned and extended by 3m. Alongside this other exterior restyling work will include the installation of a side boarding platform.

The yacht's captain, Rocka Romke, has explained the process behind the selection of the British-based team: "The team assembled for the works are testament to the quality of the workforce and facilities available in the UK. I believe the collaboration between these parties will elevate M5 to be one of the most impressive and original sailing yachts in the world both in structure and style."



Go to Brazil advises Feadship

THE 39 METRE **GO** has arrived in Brazil: the first occasion that Feadship has taken one of its superyachts on a tour of South America.

Accompanied by senior members of the Feadship management team, the yacht visit will give invited guests the chance to enjoy an exclusive private viewing of a yacht the Feadship brand.

Now, with the arrival of **Go** in Brazil, the company is firmly setting its sights on a new era of superyacht history in the south of the continent. In March and April the yacht will be cruising in the Rio and São Paulo area. At 39 metres in length, **Go** is one of the smaller superyachts built in recent times by the builder, whose current order portfolio includes the first Feadship to pass the 100-metre barrier. Nonetheless, she is a superb example of the distinctive Feadship merits of first-class design, construction, engineering and fine detailing. Her large master stateroom epitomises the calm atmosphere onboard, while the smart layout offers the option to transform two of the four guest suites into one full-beam VIP stateroom complete with lounge. A wide variety of 'outdoor-in' facilities make **Go** ideal for chartering should her owners choose to do so.

68 sailing yachts to be shipped to Europe by freighter

HAVING SAILED ACROSS the Atlantic from Saint Nazaire and Barcelona via Porto Santo, Madeira, to Martinique in the Caribbean 68 yachts are being shipping back to Europe aboard two ships, the 185 metre mv **Sampogracht**, and mv **Anjeliersgracht**, a 130 metre vessel, both part of the Spliethoff fleet and operated by Sevenstar Yacht Transport. The majority of the yachts loaded were participants of the Transquadra race. Sailing yachts are loaded with mast up and a team of experienced company loadmasters, together with the vessel's crew, controlled loading aboard the ships. Yachts will be discharged in the Mediterranean ports of Palma de Mallorca and Port La Nouvelle. 🗺️

Captain Michael Howorth is a freelance journalist who writes stories about superyachts and publishes them on his website www.thehoworths.com