

CAPTAINS AND THEIR TOYS

Which are this season's killer toys and must-have tenders? We ask six superyacht captains to divulge their tender-garage secrets Frances & Michael Howorth



LAZY Z

Captain James Knowles



What's in your garage?

A 6m Nautica RIB; 3.5m Prestige tender with electric bow-lift door; two Yamaha three-seater Waverunners; surfboards; wakeboards; wake-skates; waterskis; trickboards; more than

20 inflatable toys; and, most importantly, *the slide!* Which is the most popular with guests? The slide is the most popular with our younger and older guests. They use it almost as much as the crew! Our other

inflatable towing toys get plenty of use and we have created an inflatable assault course.

Which causes you the most problems? Due to how much the toys are used, punctures are the biggest problem we face. We've worked out that some of the toys are used for up to seven hours a day on busy charter days so the odd puncture is understandable. We have had a crew member go down the slide inside one of our inflatable balls. He was a little green when he managed to get out of the ball at the bottom.

Another crew member lost his boardies while being towed on one of the inflatable toys. Yes, we were on charter and yes, the guests saw it all!

What would you like to have? Guests and crew are becoming more fearless and are looking for new challenges. An adjustable ramp that you can use for jumping on the wakeboard would be pretty cool. What new toys can you imagine in the future? Underwater scooters will become smaller and faster.

Lazy Z data

51.4m Oceanco 1997 (refit 2007) 12 guests.

Charter broker: Camper & Nicholson's.

Charter contact: Molly Browne mb@lon.cnyachts.com

www.camperandnicholsons.com.

Available: Caribbean in winter; Mediterranean in summer. Charter rate: from \$239,000pw

PARAMOUR

Captain Sean Henson



What tenders and toys have you got aboard your yacht? Two Yamaha Waverunners; 6m Novurania with 115hp four-stroke; 10m Jupiter with two 225hp four-stroke outboards; waterskis; wakeboards; kneeboards; two

dual-person rigid kayaks with rudders; two inflatable kayaks; eight inflatable tubes; bananas and other towing toys; six sets of scuba gear; dive compressor; fishing and snorkelling gear; two bicycles.

Which is most popular with guests? The tenders with motors, as they offer the most options and provide the widest range of uses.

Which causes you the most problems? Our Waverunners tend not to be loved by the yacht's engineers! You would be surprised how far up the beach or into the mangroves guests can launch themselves and these machines when they attack the throttle with gusto!

What toys would you like to have? I like to put motorised racing yachts, speedboats and seaplanes in races together. We set up a racecourse with floating buoys, flags and a finish and start line. A mini

submarine would be fun and the lazzaretto is certainly big enough to hold one. Virtual golf would also be nice. What new toys can you imagine in the future? The way technology and miniaturisation is going I think a submersible seaplane might be on the cards.

Paramour data

42.6m CMN 2002 (refit 2007) 10 guests

Charter broker: Fraser Yachts. Contact: Jennifer Howarth Jennifer.howarth@fraseryachts.com.

Website: www.fraseryachts.com. Available: Caribbean in winter; Mediterranean in summer. Charter rate: from \$140,000pw in the Caribbean; €135,000pw in the Mediterranean





MAJESTIC

Captain Mike O'Neill



What's in your garage? Two Nautica RIB tenders; two Yamaha Waverunners; two Hobie kayaks; two windsurfers; waterskis; kneeboard; wakeboard; fishing gear; numerous towable toys/tubes; scuba gear for eight.

Which toy is most popular with guests?

Waverunners get the most use. They are fast, manoeuvrable toys that the guest can fully control themselves, as opposed to being driven everywhere by a crew member. It gives guests a sense of freedom. Which toy causes you the most problems?

Waverunners! Even when charter guests are given strict instructions to stay clear of swimmers and within sight of the mothership, this knowledge gets washed away by a surge of adrenaline the moment the throttle is opened, resulting in the deck crew having to chase after them in a tender, herding them into safer waters! What toy would you like to have? There is so much to see below the surface. I would like to see more ROVs. What new toys can you imagine in the future? I can imagine a kid playing some sort of 3D virtual game in a custom-designed games room aboard, against his friend on another yacht on the other side of the world.

Majestic data

61.2m Feadship 2007 12 guests.

Charter broker: Burgess. Contact: Neil Hornsby london@burgessyachts.com. Website:

www.burgessyachts.com. Available: Caribbean in winter; Mediterranean in summer.

Charter rate: €378,000pw



EXUMA

Captain Adolfo Orca



What's in your garage?

4m and 7m Castoldi tenders; Hovpod Hovercraft; Sea-Doo RXT215; Iveco Amphibian jeep (right); Cayago SeaBobs; Matra E-MO electric moped; two bicycles; waterskis; snorkelling equipment;

wakeboards; inflatable toys

Which is most popular with guests? The SeaBobs and the Sea-Doo. They are very easy to drive and fun. The hovercraft is very popular with guests who want to visit out-of-the-way places where there are no roads. Which causes you the most problems? Our amphibious jeep is our greatest challenge. It weighs over 2,600kg and that can be difficult to load and

discharge on occasions. But it's very useful when we visit locations that don't have rent-a-car offices!

What toys would you like to have? Goodness me – do you think I need more? A seaplane would be nice!

What new toys can you imagine in the future? I would think it is going to become harder and harder to carry new and exciting toys. Restrictions on the two-stroke engine will push people towards more electric toys such as Sea-Doos. For that same reason I think small mini-submarines will become more popular.

Exuma

50m Picchiotti 2010 12 guests.

Charter broker: Fraser Yachts. Contact: Daniela De Marco Daniela.DeMarco@FraserYachts.com.

Website: www.fraseryachts.com

Available: Caribbean in winter; Mediterranean in summer. Charter rate: from €175,000pw



PANTHALASSA

Captain Greg Butler-Davis



What's in your garage?

Two 6.3m Pascoe Shuttle RIBs; 5.5m Achilles RIB with 90hp Yamaha; two Laser sailing dinghies; four Cayago F7 SeaBobs; two Sea-Doo Waverunners; Yamaha Jetski; three kite surfers;

six dive sets; two surfboards; four wakeboards; four sets of waterskis; two windsurfers; an inflatable aqua gym/trampoline; a 20ft inflatable runway; inflatable pool; lots of inflatable towables!

Which is the most popular with guests? The SeaBobs, because they are pure James Bond.

Which causes you the most problems? None of the toys really cause us any trouble, but the SeaBobs give us a few laughs. They are a lot more powerful than people expect, so you can end up losing part of a swimming costume!

What would you like to have? A seaplane or helicopter, for moving guests between locations.

What new toys can you imagine in the future?

Personal jet-packs for air, surface and below-surface



travel. As I said, pure James Bond 007!

Pantbalassa data

56m Perini Navi 2010 12 guests.

Charter broker: Camper & Nicholson's.

Contact: Sonia Palfrey sp@mon.cnyachts.com.

Website: www.camperandnicholsons.com.

Available: Caribbean in winter; Mediterranean in

summer. Charter rate: from US\$200,000pw



SOLEMATES

Captain Glynn Smith



What's in your garage? Two 7.5m Vikal custom tenders; tender equipped as rescue boat; two Yamaha three-person; Waverunners; two SeaBobs; six sets of diving gear; lots of fishing gear; two power surfboards; golf

clubs with tee box and biodegradable balls; two tandem kayaks; water trampoline; towable banana; three remote-control racing sloops; waterskis (multiple sizes); wakeboards; Towable tubes (lots)

Which is most popular with guests? They are all popular, but the one that they all want to try is the powered surfboard as most guests have not seen one of those before.

Which toy causes you the most problems? Thankfully, everything on board this yacht is new so we haven't had any major difficulties with the toys yet, but the SeaBobs regularly remove swimsuits and cause the most embarrassment!

What toy would you like to have? We are very spoiled. If I want a new toy, the owner tells me to buy it and have it on board as soon as we can. Our mandate is to deliver to guests the ultimate charter experience.

What new toys can you imagine in the future? I think that personal submarines have the most potential. Something that only goes down to 60ft or so where the light is good and can be operated with minimal training would be great fun – I think of it as an enclosed SeaBob.

Solemates

60m Lurssen 2010 12 guests.

Charter broker: Luxury Yacht Group.

Contact: Rupert Connor rc@luxyachts.com. Websites:

www.luxyachts.com www.yachtsolemates.com.

Available: Caribbean in winter and Mediterranean in summer. Charter rate: from €340,000pw