

CURRICULUM VITAE

Matthew FRENCH
FRGS, MRIN, MHydSoc

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name : Matthew FRENCH
Nationality : British.
Date & Place of Birth : 11th August 1945 in London.

EDUCATION, TRAINING and QUALIFICATIONS

Sherborne School and B.R.N.C. Dartmouth.

Three R.N. Hydrographic Courses.
R.N. Diving Officer's Course.
Staff Training at R.N. Staff College, Greenwich.
Computer Training at Defence A.D.P. Centre.

Courses at R.N. Hydrographic School:
1968 Basic
1974 Intermediate - F.I.G. Category 'A' Surveyor
1977 Advanced

Certificate of Service as Master (Foreign Going)- Master Mariner;

R.N. Sea-Going Command;
R.N. Charge Hydrographic Surveyor;
R.N. Qualified Ship's Diving Officer;
F.I.G/I.H.O. Category 'A' Surveyor;
F.R.I.C.S., F.C.Inst.C.E.S.;
F.I.Mar.E.S.T. Chartered Marine Technologist
F.R.G.S; F.C.M.I; M.R.I.N; Hydrographic Society; M.N.I.

Cardiff University Certificate of Expert Witness Accreditation

CAREER DETAILS

1964 Joined Royal Navy - Seaman Officer.

1966 Qualified as R.N. Diving Officer.

1968 Qualified as Hydrographic Surveyor.

1969 - 1987 Carried out wide variety of surveys in Antarctica, Falklands, West Indies, Mediterranean, Middle East, Red Sea, Atlantic, Pacific, North Sea and U.K. waters.

Command of two R.N. Survey Ships.

1982 Active Service in S.Atlantic Campaign.

1987-1988 Worked in Saudi Arabia as Hydrographic Adviser.

1988 Hydrographic and Marine Consultant.

1991 Founder & Managing Director, Fathoms Ltd.

2011 Private Practice

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1969	R.N. Bridge Watchkeeping and Ocean Navigation Certificates.
1970	Member, Royal Institute of Navigation.
1971	Fellow, Royal Geographical Society.
1975	Member, Hydrographic Society.
1976	Staff training at RN Staff College, Greenwich.
1979	Certificate of Competence as Yachtmaster(Ocean)(Racing).
1980	Certificate of Service as Master (Foreign Going).
1983	Professional Associate of Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.
1983	Member, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Technical Services Committee and Public Affairs Committee. Chartered Surveyor
1986	Member, British Institute of Management.
1994	Member, Nautical Institute.
1995	Member, Society of Underwater Technology
1996	Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
2004	Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute
2005	Cardiff University accredited Expert Witness
2006	Fellow of the Institute of Marine Engineers, Science and Technology; Chartered Marine Technologist.
2008	Council Member, The Survey Association
2010	Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Civil Engineering Surveyors.
2014	RYA Power Boat Level 2.

COURSES UNDERTAKEN

1965	R.N. Ship's Diving Officer.
1967	Basic management training; firefighting and damage control.
1969	Firefighting and damage control; public relations.
1970	Hifix; oceanographic data collection and interpretation; gravity data collection and interpretation.
1971	Lambda; Loran.
1972	Programming in Fortran.
1973	Magnetic observations (Magnetic Observatory); Law of the Sea (Bristol University); submarine geology (Bristol University); firefighting and damage control; cold weather survival; meteorology.
1975	Trisponder; advanced firefighting, damage control and offshore survival.
1979	Side scan sonar; Hifix-6; advanced firefighting, damage control and offshore survival and safety.
1977	Management training.
1980	Advanced firefighting, damage control and offshore survival and safety.
1982	Press liaison and public relations.
1984	Senior Management Course; advanced firefighting, damage control and offshore survival and safety.
1986	Computer training at UK Tri-Service Computer Training Centre.
1986	Hyperfix; Microfix.
1986	Hull mounted sector scanning sonar.
1988	OPITB Combined Offshore Survival and Safety - Warsash College of Maritime Studies; Offshore medical.
1989	Offshore Safety Course - Shell Expro (OPRIS No 46643H).
1992	International G.P.S. Seminar - Nottingham University.
1992	Management in the offshore industry and the ISO 9000/1 Standard.
1995	Certificate in Small Business Management - Open University.
2003	Business Growth Programme, Cranfield University School of Management.
2005	Cardiff University/Bond Solon Expert Witness Training

WORK EXPERIENCE

2011- Present Private Practice

Consultancy and expert opinion in a variety of cases. Cases involved personal injury, marine safety, marine practices, hydrography, salvage and navigation issues, tidal and boundary issues, general marine matters.

1991 - 2011 Owner and Managing Director, Fathoms Ltd.

Founded and built up this integrated geospatial engineering services company. During this time, continued to provide consultancy services for the offshore oil and gas industry supervising and project managing a wide range of tasks including surveying, ROV's, diving and marine work in various countries; specialised in all aspects of pipeline work including lay support, inspection and recovery. Developed Fathoms into a major provider of geospatial engineering services in the coastal zone. Highlights include

- The foremost provider of subsea radiological services in the UK where innovation, specialised skills and general excellence have proved very successful
- Onshore radiological services using innovative methods
- Major debris clearance salvage where 1500 tons of mangled steel and concrete were recovered from exposed waters
- Numerous hydrographic, geophysical and oceanographic surveys in coastal waters
- Deep sea search for vessel in 4500m depths
- Specialist consultancy work for the legal profession
- Probably the only company in UK providing a seamless in-house integration of various disciplines in the coastal zone
- Premier provider of multibeam echo sounding services in the coastal zone.
- Specialist search and location providers.
- Consultancy services to the offshore oil and gas industry especially pipelines.
- Expert Witness services in marine cases

1988 - 1991 Private Practice

During this period, a wide variety of work was undertaken in the offshore oil and gas sector which included supervision and project management of various surveys, including geophysical, hydrographic and robotic, rig moves, pipeline construction, laying, trenching, backfilling, inspection and recovery, dredging, health and safety issues, adviser on application of automated systems to hydrographic and MCM operations and salvage

1987 - 1988 Hydrographic Adviser

Saudi Seaports Authority - Saudi Arabia, Dammam

Responsibility for: Bathymetric, tidal and marine charting matters in and around a major port and the adjacent coastline; survey requirements, methods and standards; contract requirements; dredging of new navigation channel for royal palace (including pre- and post-dredge surveys); pollution control measures; establishment of horizontal and vertical datums; tidal analyses; selection of equipment; supervision of all work undertaken and quality control. Computer programs written for the analysis of tides.

1964 - 1987 ROYAL NAVY

1986 - 1987 Staff Officer

Ministry of Defence - Hydrographic Department (Taunton)

Responsibility for: The acceptance into service of new sea-going computerised data logging and processing system; trials programmes; seamanship and standard operating procedures; acceptance into service of new hull mounted sector-scanning sonar and doppler log/current profiler; definition of survey requirements including areas to be surveyed; assessment of surveys and trials; contract and specialist specifications for the next generation of computerised on-board systems; liaison with ports authorities; M.O.D. delegate to British Ports Authority Hydrographic Committee.

- 1984 - 1986** **Commanding Officer**
H.M.S. BULLDOG
Major bathymetric, side scan and sector scanning sonar surveys in English Channel, Dover Strait, North Sea, Firth of Clyde, Moray Firth, Campbeltown and Fraserburgh Harbours. Responsibility for: All vessel and personnel safety; all personnel; all marine aspects; planning and execution of all surveys; multi-vessel survey in the Clyde; report writing; evaluation trials of side scan sonar operating procedure; quality control of all geodetic, positioning, bathymetric, oceanographic and geophysical data, final results and reports.
- 1982 - 1984** **Staff Officer**
Ministry of Defence - Whitehall
Responsibility for: Planning of new port (Falkland Islands); public relations; press liaison; training policy; provision of hydrographic expertise to central staffs; preparation of contingency plans; budget control; staff work; conference organisation. Member of RICS Technical Services and Public Affairs Committees.
- 1980 - 1982** **Executive Officer**
H.M.S. HERALD
Responsibility for execution of bathymetric and side scan sonar surveys in UK, North Yemen, Oman, UAE, Kenya and Sudan waters; project management and quality control of surveys of Masirah Island Anchorages and Approaches and Hodeidah Harbour; all seamanship, safety and firefighting procedures; management of all human and materiel resources.
- 1979 - 1980** **Commanding Officer**
H.M.S. ENTERPRISE
Major bathymetric and side scan sonar surveys in Dover Strait, Approaches to Ramsgate, Grimsby, Dover and Lowestoft Harbours, Approaches to the Humber and Thames Estuaries. Responsibility for: All marine and safety aspects; all personnel; planning and execution of all surveys; report writing; positioning of historic wreck (STIRLING CASTLE); wreck sweeping; quality control of all geodetic, positioning, bathymetric and geophysical data, final results and reports.
- 1977 - 1979** **Executive Officer**
H.M.S. HECLA
Responsibility for: The execution of bathymetric, side scan sonar, gravity, magnetic, oceanographic and meteorological surveys in UK (including major role in JASIN Project), North Atlantic and Mediterranean waters; project management of bathymetric and side scan sonar survey of Gibraltar Harbour and Bay and subsequent salvage operations; all seamanship, safety and firefighting procedures; seabed surveys using underwater cameras; seismic charges; interpretation of gravity and magnetic data; all oceanographic data gathering and interpretation using TSDV probes and vertical arrays; Bernice acoustic source; meteorological balloons; the mooring and maintenance of ODAS buoy in Atlantic waters in 1100m water; diving operations; management of all human and materiel resources.
- 1977** **Project Manager**
Responsibility for bathymetric surveys off Dover Harbour.
- 1975 - 1976** **Navigating and Operations Officer**
H.M.S. HECLA
Responsibility for: Operations of bathymetric, side scan sonar, oceanographic, gravity and magnetic surveys in English Channel, South West Approaches, North Atlantic and Northern North Sea (Frigg tow-out route); oceanographic data gathering and interpretation, including vertical

column arrays; side scan sonar interpretation; project management of bathymetric survey of Falmouth Harbour and Docks; all diving operations.

1973 - 1975

Senior Surveyor

H.M.S. ENDURANCE

Responsibility for: Project management of bathymetric surveys of Bleaker Jump, Lively Harbour and Sound, Hope Harbour, Stanley Harbour and Oil Terminal Berth in the Falkland Islands; oceanographic data gathering and interpretation; project management of combined R.N./British Antarctic Survey bathymetric, diving and seafloor biological sampling surveys of Cooper Bay in South Georgia; project management of original bathymetric surveys of Stonington Bay and Harmony Cove in Antarctica; seaborne and shore magnetic surveys in the Falkland Islands and Antarctica; running survey, using Satnav, of the West Coast of Chile from Valparaiso to Cape Horn; all diving operations.

1970 - 1972

Surveyor

H.M.S. HECLA

Responsibility for: Project management of geodetic and bathymetric surveys of Castries Harbour, Marigot Bay and Anse la Raye Bay in St Lucia; combined bathymetric and diving survey of the wreck of SS ANTILLES off Mustique; oceanographic data collection and interpretation in the Caribbean during Project CICAR, Celtic Sea and Faeroes-Iceland Gap; gravity and magnetic data interpretation and evaluation of new gravimeter; all diving operations.

1969 - 1970

Surveyor

H.M.S. FAWN

Responsibility for project management of bathymetric surveys of Aberystwyth and Aberdovey Harbours and Pedro Cays (Jamaica), site selection of Hifix sites in Jamaica and all diving operations; surveys in Cardigan Bay, Sea of the Hebrides and Caribbean.

1964 - 1968

Under Training

Three years at BRNC Dartmouth of which one year spent at sea in HMS PROTECTOR in Antarctic Waters as Midshipman Fourth year spent at all the major RN Establishments to provide basic training in all disciplines of the Executive (Seaman) Branch.

GENERAL

He has a wide experience of ocean racing. He has participated in two Capetown to Rio de Janeiro races (1971 & 1976), one Admiral's Cup campaign (1983) including the winning of the Channel Race, two Three Quarter Ton World Championships (1976 & 1984), one James Cook Trophy (1968), the European Half Ton Cup (2011), eight Fastnet Races and many other inshore and offshore races. He now spends as much time cruising (usually foreign waters) and in race management undertaking the running of yacht races as a qualified RYA Race Officer

As a hydrographic specialist in the Royal Navy, he undertook a vast amount of small boat work surveying many inshore and dangerous waters including three seasons in Antarctic waters where he endured a major storm whilst under canvas ashore on a remote island with his team. He has an RYA PBL2 qualification.

He takes an active interest in village affairs where he has been chairman of one village's parish council, was a member of his previous village's P.C.C, is chairman of his local RNLI branch and was on the committee of the local Royal British Legion branch.