



**Craig Johnstone, Apprentice Boatbuilder**

**DDZ Marine, Largs, Ayrshire**

**Final progress report Sept 2022**

**<https://www.ddzmarine.co.uk/>**

I am Craig Johnstone working at DDZ Marine LTD doing an apprenticeship in boat building, this report is to let you know how much I have progressed over the past 7 months since my last report in February.

Since February I have taken part in many tasks involving fibreglass and GRP work including: hull repairs on a Sun Odyssey 26, re-fibre glassing a deck on a Contessa 26, fibre glassing in a new engine bearer on another Contessa 26 and more recently gel repairs on various boats with various hull colours . All of these jobs at some point during them involved sanding, grinding, filling with epoxy filler and making sure that all was done safely by wearing the correct PPE, making sure there was no hazards or potential hazards in the work space that could have cause harm to myself doing the job or anybody walking past. As well as doing these jobs I've been doing general every day boat maintenance of washing, polishing, antifouling, changing anodes, cleaning drive gear.

While doing this I've still been attending weekly zoom calls with my college tutor Ross, on a weekly basis he's been given me tasks to complete which are helping me to gain the criteria I need to fill out my portfolio and give me a better understanding and develop the skills I need to be able to do the jobs that I have been doing. Along with these tasks I have been writing reports about the jobs I have been doing to support the tasks and the criteria needed for my portfolio

Ross has been very helpful setting out the tasks and reports. Its also helpful that he is regularly available at any time I need him to offer advice on anything

I might be stuck on. I find it very useful when I send him what I've done and he responds with some feedback on points I've missed or where I could add more to my answers or reports to cover the points that need to be covered.

While doing the repairs and work on the boats it has been very helpful working alongside my experienced colleague Ollie, who either does a part of a job to show me what to do or talks me through the job so I understand what is needing done and leaves me to it and checks on me every now and then to see how I'm getting on. He also makes himself available to me for any help throughout the day.

The main knowledge that I have gained from my last report is knowledge about grp materials. What type of material to use for what repair, the best ways to use the materials so there's not too much waste and get the best result out of what I'm trying to achieve.

Learning this knowledge has really given me the confidence to carry out the tasks given to me in the best possible way to get the best results..

By gaining these skills DDZ have benefited from this by being able to bring in more work because there is now an extra person who can do this type of work.

My main goal is to keep learning a wide variety of skills that can be applied to many aspects of the marine industry. I do enjoy doing some of the more complex composite work as I find it interesting, these are skills I would really like to hone in on and excel at throughout my career. I have a keen interest in high performance boats and luxury bluewater cruisers and hope my career will give me the opportunity to apply the skills I learn at college to these kinds of boats.