



Meet the team bringing the vision to life

The crew of a Coastal Forces craft were a tight knit team with a variety of skills and backgrounds. The team charged with the design and construction of this remarkable monument take their inspiration from those crews...



Sculptor and designer – Amy Goodman

Amy has been sculpting since a very young age, evolving her fluid, dynamic figurative style to produce a terrific portfolio of public and private work - from striking equestrian works in the UK and America, to the moving Gurkha memorial at Aldershot and the vibrant 'Glimmer Twins' in Dartford. This is her first maritime commission.



Castings – Alec Ryman

Alec has been moulding and casting professionally since the 1970s and has worked with some of the most celebrated sculptors around, including Dame Elizabeth Frink, Lynn Chadwick, Oscar Nemon and Amy Goodman. His castings stand at the British Museum, the Royal Academy, Windsor Castle and locations worldwide. A highly innovative resin casting specialist, he formed Ryman and Leader Sculpture Castings with Nicole Leader in 2004.



Structural Engineer – Stephen Winter

Steve has been a chartered structural engineer for over forty years, working for major international design consultants, mainly on bridges, buildings, motorways, the odd Caribbean lighthouse, the Hull Swing Bridge and the Thames Flood Barrier. A keen yachtsman, he has competed in seven Fastnet Races and served on the Royal Ocean racing Club committee.



Marine Consultant – Mike Ring

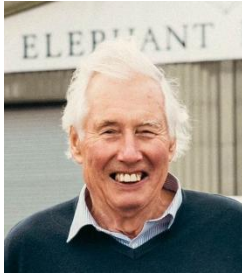
Mike watched the D Day landing rehearsals and has spent most of his life afloat – when not racing motorbikes, running pubs and fashion boutiques. He founded Ring Powercraft in 1967 with a five pound note and went on to hold National speed records and European Championship wins in the 1970s and 80s. His boats are watchwords for innovation, seaworthiness and speed and in 2022 he received a Lifetime Achievement award from the European Commercial Marine Federation.

'So you see with over 60 years in and around boats, very 'hands on' and pushing my luck - is why I have such an empathy with the brave souls, male and female that helped to keep this country free.'



Marine Consultant – Richard Farrington CBE

Richard has been at sea all his life. He spent 37 happy years in the Royal Navy, including two years driving a (reasonably) fast patrol boat in Northern Ireland. He has raced yachts around the cans and across oceans. These days he runs his own business as a marine consultant, yacht surveyor and blue water sailor. He is a Rear Commodore of the Royal Naval Sailing Association and a Trustee of the Coastal Forces Heritage Trust.



Boatbuilder – Tom Richardson

Tom Richardson began his apprenticeship at Moody's Boatyard at Bursledon in 1960. He had been racing on the Solent since the late 1950s and went on to compete in the Admiral's Cup and the Bermuda and Transatlantic races for many years. He joined his father at the Elephant in 1967 and went on to forge a reputation for artisan craftsmanship, fast boats and in time, the rise of glass fibre in place of wood. The yard hit stardom in the 1980s as the setting for the BBC drama 'Howards Way' – Tom built their boats and ensured that the yard carried on as normal – right through to this century.



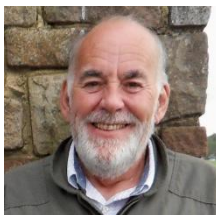
Boatbuilder – Matt Richardson

Sailing and boat building are a way of life for Matt, who, along with his sister Beth, is now the third generation to work in the family business. Thanks to an exciting career constructing race boats, he brings a vast knowledge of build techniques to the business. When not building boats, Matt is a keen sailor and has competed in numerous offshore races.



Operations Management – Beth Powell

Beth began her career in London, working with digital consultancies before taking on the unique role of Personal Manager to chef and restaurateur Jamie Oliver during the height of his career. Having grown up at the Elephant Boatyard, Beth always felt a strong connection to the water and sailing — she's now come full circle, running the family yard and guiding it into an exciting new chapter. Passionate about both the people and the place she's now helping to shape its future.



Steel Fabricator – Bob Young

Bob learnt his trade as an aircraft sheet metal worker and welder with Hawker Siddeley Aviation on the Hamble. He started his own company in 1986, fabricating pressure vessels, pipework and stainless-steel structures. He has worked with many large companies but for the last 20 years has specialised in stainless and aluminium marine work.



'The Elephant Boatyard is deeply honoured to collaborate with renowned sculptor Amy Goodman in creating the boat element of a remarkable new sculpture paying tribute to the courageous men who served in Coastal Forces.'

This project holds special significance for the yard and the Richardson family. Michael Richardson, who founded the Elephant Boatyard in the 1950s, began his career in the 1930s as an apprentice at the British Power Boat Company in Hythe on Southampton Water. It was there that he contributed to the development and construction of the fast naval powerboats that would become an essential part of the Coastal Forces flotillas stationed around the UK during the war.

Today, in its third generation, the Richardson family continues to operate the Elephant Boatyard with the same passion for craftsmanship and maritime heritage. Their involvement in this project reflects a proud commitment to preserving and celebrating an extraordinary chapter in Britain's naval history—one that resonates deeply with their own family's legacy.'