

Foster Marine Surveys ... a name you can rely on

Whether or not you are an experienced yachtsperson or a newcomer to boating, here at Foster Marine Surveys we always have your best interests at heart

After 20 years in business, it still amazes me how many clients contact me after purchasing a boat, looking for an insurance survey, without having had the benefit of a pre-purchase survey.

My question to all prospective purchasers is: **would you buy a house without a survey?**

REMEMBER:

- ✓ when you choose a pre-purchase survey you are paying a few hundred pounds to potentially save thousands
- ✓ Did you know that a pre-purchase survey can be used for insurance purposes?

My **Three Top Tips** for you to check when you are considering purchasing a boat

1. Always have a pre-purchase survey because:
 - at the very best you'll have peace of mind
 - you will have foresight as to any potential structural or major maintenance issues which can be used in negotiating a fair purchase price
 - you may decide not to proceed will walk away from a potentially costly project
2. Basic checks for you to do before instructing a surveyor:
 - *For GRP/FRP vessels:* if the vessel is out of the water, look out for any signs of blistering on the undersides as this may be an indication of a potentially structural problem. Be wary of painted hulls as paint can hide a multitude of sins
 - *For steel vessels:* Look out for any damp patches or signs of corrosion. Always be wary of painted undersides which can hide a multitude of sins
 - For timber vessels: look out for damp patches and decaying timber
3. For sailing vessels, check the age of the standing rigging. Most insurance companies will not insure a cruising vessel that has standing rigging of more than 10+ years and replacement of standing rigging can be costly.