

Subj: Copy of what I sent to Peter Insulls
Date: 1/31/2003 8:00:27 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: "Michael Howorth" <mjh@thehoworths.com>
To: "Christopher Benson" <bensonc880@aol.com>
Sent from the Internet (Details)

Dear Debbie:

Re Chris Benson as Chef

Further to your request for information, I hired Chris aboard Atlantic Goose during July 2002. I did so because I needed to raise the standards on what was in reality when I took command a poorly run yacht. Quite simply Chris is the best chef I have ever worked with and I would have no hesitation about hiring him again on any yacht I may command in the future. He is innovative, careful, creative, clean and tidy. He clearly enjoys his job and lives his life to the full yet was 100% dependable. I never had to question him about expenditure or quality. He was never absent from his post and was always cheerful no matter what strain charter guests put upon him and his galley. His background of cooking ashore stands him in great stead and all his former crewmates from Atlantic Goose and other yachts he has worked on speak well of him as a fellow member of crew and all enjoyed eating the food he created for them all even when the boat was not working. Only a very insecure or inexperienced Captain would want to change Chris for another chef.