

DEBRA SEARLE MVO MBE

Adventurer. Entrepreneur. Inspirational Leader.



Debra Searle MVO MBE has an extraordinary story of resilience and determination. She first captured global attention when she set out to row across the Atlantic with her husband, a 6'5" international oarsman. Just days into the journey, he had to be rescued, leaving Debra — a novice rower — alone in the middle of the ocean.

With no support boat and limited experience, she made the bold decision to continue. Over the next 3½ months, Debra rowed 3,300 miles from Tenerife to Barbados, facing 30-foot waves, sharks, and powerful storms in a 23-foot plywood boat. What was meant to be a six-week challenge became a remarkable solo endurance feat that redefined what she believed was possible.

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Since then, Debra has continued to push boundaries through expeditions across the globe and has represented Great Britain at European and World Championship level in Dragon Boat Racing, winning bronze, silver, and gold medals.

Alongside her adventures, Debra is a successful entrepreneur, having founded multiple companies including MIX Diversity, a consultancy focused on Diversity & Inclusion. Her business experience brings real-world insight into leadership, performance, and resilience.

She has presented numerous BBC programmes, authored three books, and spent a decade serving at board level alongside members of the Royal Family. Her achievements have been recognised with an MBE and her appointment as a Member of the Victorian Order (MVO).

Named among the World's Top 50 Inspirational Leaders and ranked among the world's leading motivational figures, Debra combines extraordinary life experience with practical business insight.

Her incredible Atlantic journey is now being developed into a Hollywood film.