

## DEBRA SEARLE



### **Determined Atlantic Rower Entrepreneur**

Debra Searle first hit the headlines when she set out to row across the Atlantic with her husband. Unfortunately, he had to be rescued so Debra, a novice rower, continued alone without a support boat and rowed 3000 miles from Tenerife to Barbados. It should have taken them six weeks, but Debra ended up spending 3 ½ months at sea alone, encountering 30' waves, sharks, and force 8 squalls in her 23-foot plywood boat. Since returning from this adventure, Debra has undertaken solo & team expeditions across the globe. She has also represented Great Britain at European and World Championship level in Dragon Boat Racing winning bronze, silver and gold medals.

Debra has founded 5 companies including MIX Diversity Developers, a D&I consultancy and training company. She has presented 40 programmes for the BBC and had 3 books published, most recently The Choose Your Attitude Journal. Her spirit of adventure gained her an MBE from Her Majesty The Queen and she was delighted to be appointed a Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, spending a decade working alongside His Royal Highness Prince Philip and His Royal Highness Prince Edward. Debra has been appointed a Member of the Victorian Order (MVO) for her services to the Royal Family.

In 2021 Debra Searle was ranked No.3 in the World's Top Motivational Speakers with only Simon Sinek and Tony Robbins ahead of her. The movie of Debra's solo Atlantic row is currently in development in Hollywood.

#### **Topics (Selection):**

- Choose Your Attitude!
- Strategies for not just coping but excelling during periods of change
- Personal motivation and productivity
- Teamwork and positive relationships
- Achieving seemingly impossible goals
- Personal performance when under pressure

#### **Publications (Selection):**

- The Choose Your Attitude Journal
- Rowing It Alone, 2014
- The Journey: How to Achieve Against the Odds, 2007