



Dee Caffari MBE

Dee Caffari MBE is a pioneering yachswoman and inspiring leadership speaker who has just completed her seventh global circumnavigation as co-skipper of The Famous Project CIC. Drawing on multiple world-first achievements, she delivers compelling lessons on resilience, teamwork, inclusion and leading through extreme challenges.

KEY TOPICS

- Leading Through the Storm: Resilience Under Pressure
- High Performance in Extreme Environments
- Breaking Barriers: Diversity, Inclusion and Bold Leadership
- Trust, Teamwork and Decision-Making When It Matters Most
- Navigating Risk, Change and Uncertainty

BIOGRAPHY

Introduction

Dee Caffari MBE is one of the world's most accomplished ocean sailors and a highly sought-after keynote speaker on leadership, resilience and performance. With seven global circumnavigations and a career defined by record-breaking firsts, she brings rare, real-world insight into what it takes to succeed under sustained pressure.

Professional Background & Credentials

Dee began her professional sailing career in 2000 and quickly rose to international prominence. In 2006, she made history as the only woman to sail solo, non-stop around the world against the prevailing winds and currents. She later competed in the Vendée Globe and went on to complete multiple non-stop circumnavigations, establishing herself as one of Britain's most respected offshore sailors. In January 2026, Dee completed her seventh circumnavigation as co-skipper of The Famous Project CIC alongside founder Alexia Barrier. Sailing the Maxi Trimaran IDEC SPORT, the all-female crew successfully completed a full lap of the planet to set the first-ever all-female reference time for the prestigious Jules Verne Trophy. This landmark achievement disrupted a long-standing all-male legacy and required exceptional perseverance, teamwork and leadership, particularly after significant technical challenges, including the loss of the mainsail. Beyond competition, Dee co-skippered Turn the Tide on Plastic in the Volvo Ocean Race 2017/18, combining elite performance with global environmental advocacy. She is also Chair of the World Sailing Trust, where she champions sustainability, diversity and inclusion across the sport.

Speaking Style & Audience Value

Dee is an authentic, engaging and highly relatable speaker who translates extreme experiences at sea into practical insights for business and leadership audiences. Through keynote presentations and fireside chats, she blends powerful storytelling with humour and clarity, offering clear takeaways on trust, resilience, risk management and decision-making in uncertain environments. Audiences leave inspired, grounded and equipped to lead through challenge.

Awards, Recognition & Wider Impact

Dee Caffari was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to sailing and has been appointed an Honorary Commander in the Royal Navy. She made history as the first woman to sail solo, non-stop around the world against the prevailing winds and has since co-skipped the first all-female crew to complete a Jules Verne Trophy circumnavigation. Alongside her sporting achievements, Dee is a respected international advocate for clean seas, sustainability and gender balance. [Contact us now](#) for more information on how Dee can inspire your audience with powerful lessons on resilience, leadership, teamwork and high performance drawn from the most extreme environments on earth.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"We thoroughly enjoyed having Dee share her insights and leadership lessons with our London Business School alumni community. Engaging, thought provoking and humble, her story resonated so strongly with our community that we are already being asked to bring her back in person next semester!' (Just so you know, one particular Alumni commented: "I wish we could have seen Dee in person. Please invite her back after lockdown." "Very impressive and great way to learn leadership skills" "fantastic event! Best one yet!")"

— London Business School

"Dee was engaging, down to earth and warm hearted. Her presentation was extremely well received by our clients. Her description of the extraordinary challenges and her way of dealing with them was a lesson in perspective for us all.' "

— Oracle

"The manager's conference is still in full swing; however I wanted to reach out to you to thank you for the amazing story you shared with us. I was, like many others, inspired by your leadership lessons and will use many references in my speech later today. So many people commented on how unique your talk and you being available afterwards were. I really thank you for having been part of this event."

— Barry Callebaut