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Name

Lee Gallacher

Topics and Title

Professional Yachtsman & Motivational Speaker

Background History

From a young lad growing up on a council estate to an accomplished yachtsman with more than twenty five years experience, from racing to cruising yachts to powerboats. Lee is professional in his approach to yachting and racing. Losing is not an option on the water.

Lee began sailing as a child in Mirror dinghies, as many other people have. He has raced Kings and people of positions of corporate to governmental power. A highly competitive individual, who began to become more and more interested in making his boat go faster. The next few years were spent in various classes. Lee raced and surfed many a weekend with his math's and geography teachers in South Africa, who taught him so much respect for the ocean.

Lee was bitten by the yacht racing bug in the Solent whilst crewing on other people's boats, eventually racing on ever bigger and better boats. All his spare time was spent 'roaming' the pontoons and getting a ride on as many boats as possible for experience.

Lee started working as a boat bum or as a yard hand before getting a "real job" in the police force as a communications operator. He soon felt the call to come back to the ocean. He started his own company which basically put him out and available to skipper private yachts for their owners. The need for more money drove him again back into "real work" which got him into selling service contracts to comply with the COSHH requirements.

This meant selling to large Pharmaceutical companies as well as other organisations that had chemical containment systems. The call came again and Lee returned to sailing. This time it drove him to near destitution; he slept rough for three months through what Lee describes as one of the coldest winters he has ever encountered.

Areas of Expertise

This is where Lee decided to start writing a book about his life. He called it Change Tack. That story is the story of his life and how he changed it from near destitution to

a life of what he dreamed of. It is still in the making as after the living rough Lee changed his life and embarked on one of the most empowering journeys of his life, through the Southern Ocean.

He has his sights now firmly on the 2008 Vendee Globe, even though he has now been diagnosed with a chronic degenerative disease. Challenge Sailing Team was born to assist him in this venture to raise awareness of the 2 disease areas, Ankylosing Spondylitis and Asthma that he suffers with. In competing in these events he will become the first person with a disability to single-handedly circumnavigate the Globe non-stop.

Through careful listening he gains understanding of how people development works in the organization and then designs strategies that work for those particular people in their unique environments.

Personal motto is 'There is only one thing stopping you achieving your goals. That one thing is yourself. If you are determined enough to succeed then you will.

"We can't build a better tomorrow by using yesterday's methods. Businesses that expect to make it in today's global market place must begin by tapping the creativity of all employees, not just a few maverick inventors or dynamic CEOs. Competitive advantage today comes from continuous, incremental innovation". Harold R McAlindon