

Mick Dawson

The Man who Rowed Across the Pacific Ocean from Japan to San Francisco

Mick Dawson is one of the most experienced and successful Ocean Rowers in the world. He is a former Royal Marine Commando, an author and film maker. In 2015 he founded 'The Cockleshell Endeavour,' a resource for recovering veterans dealing with physical or mental health issues.

His list of ongoing maritime achievements includes twice rowing the Atlantic Ocean, skippering the first and only rowing boat ever to cross the North Pacific Ocean (7000 miles from Japan to The Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco) and successfully rowing the Pacific again in 2018, from California to Hawaii, with Blind Veteran Steve Sparkes, another world record and world first.

Under the flag of 'The Cockleshell Endeavour,' Mick continues to raise money for military charities and create and break records whilst working with and supporting the service community.

Whilst providing ongoing support for recovering veterans in national and international ocean rows and kayaking expeditions, Mick has maintained his connection with the sea paddling around the Falklands in 2017 with a Royal Marine veteran dealing with issues of PTSD and more recently, in 2022, paddling a two-man kayak, again in partnership with blind veteran Steve Sparkes, from Fort William in Scotland to Portsmouth on the South Coast of England. A 74-day, near 700-mile project created to acknowledge the 40th anniversary of the Falklands war which both men are veterans of.

Mick's powerful and remarkable presentations are built on the backdrop of his many diverse and genuinely unique maritime experiences and adventures. The lessons learned and setbacks overcome achieving seemingly impossible goals in the most challenging of conditions.

His presentations are delivered with passion, humour and an expertise built on a foundation of hard-won knowledge and life lessons gained in the most hostile of environments.

Highlighting, amongst other key points, the ethos of great teamwork, adaptive leadership, the importance of resilience and how to develop it, Mick's presentations illustrate in a uniquely colourful and exciting way the fundamental principles which are essential for all individuals or teams striving to achieve their goals and ambitions in any environment.

In 2017 Mick's first book charting the story of his North Pacific and Atlantic rowing adventures went on the shelves: Published by Hachette, in the U.S. titled: Battling the Oceans on A Rowboat (published 22nd August 2017). In the U.K. titled: Rowing the Pacific (21st of September 2017).

His Second book, 'Never Leave A Man Behind,' charting his work with recovering veterans and his epic row across the Pacific with blind veteran Steve Sparkes (Published in August 2020 by little brown books)