



# Greg Bertish

## Waves of Optimism

Philanthropist  
Speaker ~ Author  
Waterman

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"Greg Bertish takes resilience to a new level!"

Prof Wayne Derman - MBChB  
BSc (Med)(Hons) PhD FFIMS

"I have never heard a more powerful, inspirational and perfect talk. Greg, ... respect!"

Ian Klopper – National Sea  
Rescue / Station Commander



Greg Bertish



@littleoptimist  
@gregbertish

### Speaking Topics

Greg's unique talks, his visionary mindset and his raw and powerful storytelling have inspired audiences around the world.

Adventure, awards, failure, medical hardship, survival and the incredible little hero's he has met along his journey, will leave you spell bound, optimistic and inspired to be a better human being.

- My Hero – Optimism and the Ocean - a powerful health tonic.
- All heart- The Dream Chaser (finding your passion & purpose) .
- The Baby, the Boy and the Shark - Harnessing disruption and shifting perceived reality.

### Bio

Bullied, insecure and dyslexic as a child, he believed he would not amount to much.

How wrong he was! Greg is now a family man, humanitarian, charity campaigner, author and the founder of the internationally awarded Sharkspotter Program and The Little Optimist Trust.

After surviving two cardiac surgeries and 200 days in hospital fighting a tropical bacteria, he went on to sail an 8ft children's Optimist dinghy around the Cape of Storms in 2016. He raised ZAR 1.3 million for the Red Cross Children's Hospital and OPTIMIST, the internationally acclaimed documentary about his journey, was released.

A respected sailor and surfer, Greg shifted "perceived reality" when, as a multiple cardiac surgery survivor, he became National Champion in Lifesaving and Stand-Up Paddle Boarding.

In 2019 he was recognised on the international stage for the incredible charity work he does in Africa, and received the Dame Charity Award in Amsterdam.

After authoring two children's books, Greg has partnered with both the Laureus Foundation and Paris Olympics 2024 and has opened the first Sailing Therapy Academy in Cape Town.

