Welcome from our Founder, Sylvia Lister

Thirty-five years ago, my late husband, Noel, and I set up UKSA. We were inspired by the impact that sailing had on our own lives, from competing in international competitions to sailing around the world on our yacht, Whirlwind XII. We knew we had to pass our passion on to the next generation. We wanted to enrich, challenge, inspire and educate.

I look at the organisation now and the incredible transformation from those early days. I couldn't be prouder of how far UKSA has come, and I know that Noel would feel the same. They now offer a unique breadth of aspirational pathways – from inspiring and engaging a school child taking part in watersports for the first time to enable them to build confidence, broaden horizons and develop life skills, through to training young people looking to begin or progress in careers in the maritime industry.

Most impressive is their passion for removing barriers to enable deserving children and young people, that might not otherwise have the chance, to benefit from their activity, education and development programmes, including through school trips. They can only do this with continued financial support.

UKSA is our legacy. The launch of the Founders' Club, of which I am honoured to be Patron, is vital to ensuring its continued and sustainable growth. I urge you to join me in changing children and young people's lives for generations to come.

Sylvia

