

Ellen MacArthur's biography

Adapted from : www.famouspeoplelessons.com

1. Fill in the text with verbs:

be (x5) - receive - break - sail - head - become
(x2) - read - fall - decide - save - buy - name -
encourage - go - come - get (x2) - use - start -
help - make - honour - award -

[Remember to conjugate the verbs
in the appropriate tenses !]



Dame Ellen MacArthur (born in 1976) a very brave and talented English yachtswoman. Her first name Ellen; 'Dame' a special title she for her outstanding achievements from the British Queen. On 7 February 2005, she the world record for being the fastest person to around the world. Ellen now the crews of Britain's top sailing teams. She interested in sailing after she the 'Swallows and Amazons' books by Arthur Ransome. Her first experience of yachting on her aunt's boat on the east coast of England. She instantly in love with sailing and the sea. She to a sailor and her school dinner money to her first boat.

In 1998, aged 22, she the Royal Yachting Association "Yachtsman of The Year" in the UK. This her to for the big time. In 2001, she second in the Vendée Globe solo round-the-world race. For this, she her first honour from Britain's Queen. She her second award for breaking the solo circumnavigation of the world.

She her fame to her own charity to young people with cancer and other serious illnesses. Ellen also it to the heavens, as well as the seas; there an asteroid named 20043 EllenMacarthur. In 2008, she further ; French President Nicolas Sarkozy her the French Legion of Honour.

2. Find a synonym for the following words in the text:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

1. courageous
2. extraordinary
3. leads
4. contact with
5. straightaway
6. ocean



Paragraphs 3 and 4

7. inspired
8. single-handed
9. sailing around
10. terrible
11. the sky
12. additionally

