



1974 – 2022

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2022

With Covid now behind us and mostly everyone vaccinated, the future looked bright and we were looking forward to a great 2022 swim season. We were not disappointed!

Winter pool training had commenced in October 2021 through to April 2022 and we were allowed to have our 2 hour slot back but the times had changed, a little later now from 7–8 pm for the juniors and from 8-9 pm for the seniors, but this didn't appear to deter members from attending the pool sessions and we were full for the whole 2 hours. Thanks to Bianca for organising the training sessions, and to the committee for assisting on poolside.

January 1st 2022 – everyone turned up for our annual New Year's Day Swim at St Catherine's Slip eager to swim but unfortunately it was too dangerous to enter the sea so the committee decided to move the swim to Archirondel where surprisingly the sea was so much calmer and safer for everyone to have a lovely swim to kick start 2022 swim season!

In February 2022 we held the BLDSC One Hour Swim Challenge, in which 13 juniors and 12 seniors took part. Leading the way with a gold medal in his age group was Martin Powell, Silver and Bronze medals were awarded to Rhianna Reynolds and Charlotte Vernon in their age groups. Silver and Bronze medals to Alice Harvey and Helen Maletroit in their age groups, Silver to Heidi Gallaher and Bronze to Jenny Fitzgerald in their respective age groups. Congratulations to all swimmers.

We saw the return of the JLDSC quiz night on the 25th March organised by our "Dinner Ladies". The evening was full of fun, tricky questions and brain teasers, a raffle and football card. The evening raised **£389.61**. Thanks to Marilyn & Pat, Pete Blandin for hosting, the Optimist Club for the use of their room and bar, and to everyone who donated raffle prizes, and thanks to everyone who attended.

On 12th March we had the swimarathon where JLDSC had all 8 lanes and raised a creditable sum of **£709.00** for the Lions Club of Jersey. A fun time was had by all swimmers. Thanks to Chantelle for organising.

Our first sea swim of the season was the "Break the Ice Swim" held on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May, the weather was dry but overcast however we had an amazing 51 swimmers turn up and everyone had a fabulous swim to start off the 2022 summer season. This was followed by a swim at Archirondel the following Sunday, again the weather overcast and the sea rather choppy but 35 swimmers turned up and braved the sea. Amazing!

These numbers continued throughout the summer come rain or shine!

We always have a charity swim each year and this year on Sunday 15th May it was a swim for Healing Waves – Ocean Therapy organised by Nicki Brown and Sammy Pipon. Although it was cloudy and raining

the bakers had been busy with so many cakes for sale and so many swimmers who turned up and donated to the charity. Thank you everyone, the sum of **£264.44** was raised for Healing Waves – Ocean Therapy!

Following the swim at Ouaisne on Sunday 22nd May we had the Flambard Trophy swim at Havre des Pas on Sunday 29th May organised by Jenny & John Asplet. This was held in the HDP pool on a sunny day with just a light breeze in the air and I am delighted to say the Flambard Trophy was awarded to Suzanne de Ste Croix and was presented to her by Richard Flambard after the swim.

On the 5th June we held the Mike Kempster swim at Mike's Slip organised by myself and Bianca Kempster. Mike was Bianca's Grandfather and has lots of history with JLDSC this is why the club calls La Grande Maison "Mike's Slip". Although the weather was overcast the sea was flat calm, thanks to our kayakers Jenny and John for escorting our swimmers safely across to Archirondel and back.

On 7th June we commenced our Tuesday night training at St Catherine's Slip, the weather wasn't very kind to us, it was a dull and rainy evening. However, surprisingly over 30 swimmers turned up and went in for a dip in the sea, tow floats and all! These numbers rapidly increased each Tuesday as the weather improved!

The following week we had a swim at Bouley Bay but we only had 10 swimmers turn up for this swim I think it may have something to do with it being a 7am meet and swim time of 7:30am but those of us that did turn up had a brilliant swim!

We then held the McLaughlin Family Swim at Green Island at 10.30 am on 19th June. Unfortunately the weather was terrible, it was wet, windy, raining and we even had hail stones! Everyone got wet before taking to the sea upon which 12 hardy swimmers ventured in for a play swim. Jean had brought lots of cakes to the swim and the McLaughlin Family Trophy was awarded to Justine Marret and presented to her by Jean after the swim. Justine was hop, skipping and jumping about with Jean at the excitement of receiving the trophy!

On 26th June we had a swim scheduled at St Catherine's but it was too windy and the sea was too rough to enter so it was moved to Archirondel although low tide the sea was much calmer and over 20 swimmers enjoyed their swim.

The start of July on the 3rd there was the Masters and Mini Masters swim from Archirondel to Anneport and back organised by Jenny & Billie. We had 3 safety kayakers in, John, Jonathan and Nigel Cave keeping a close eye on all swimmers. Trophies were awarded after the swim to seniors Alice Harvey & Richard Flambard and Mini masters Rhianna Reynolds. Well done to all swimmers.

10th July the Sally Parmesan swim at St Brelade's Bay at 3pm – It was a very hot sunny day so you can imagine there were lots of people on the beach and the parking was a nightmare! Please note we have reminded ourselves not to organise an afternoon swim at St Brelade's Bay again in the middle of summer! However that being said we had over 30 swimmers who swam from end to end across the bay amongst pleasure swimmers and boats! In the end it was a really fun swim. Thanks to Nicki and Bee for organising.

24th July we held the De Caux Trophy swim at Ouaisne at 3pm. Again a hot and sunny day and a crowded beach, but 23 swimmers entered the sea and swam to the rock and back under the beady eyes of our resident kayakers John and Jonathan. Trophies were awarded to Eleanor Docherty & Rory Docherty after the swim for the youngest girl and boy swimmers participating. Thanks to Marilyn & Chantelle for organising.

31 July Greve de L'Ecq another early start but a lovely sunny morning, good conditions but only 18 swimmers turned up for a great swim under the watchful eyes of our safety kayakers John and Jonathan.

August 7th St Catherine's at 10.00 for a 10.30 swim a beautiful sunny morning with over 35 swimmers. Video of all swimmers sent to Sally wishing her good luck for her Channel swim. Thanks to Nicki for organising.

14th August –Belcroute – everyone missed out here although an early start little did you know that a BBQ was organised for breakfast rolls after the swim so the handful of swimmers that did turn up had a beautiful swim under the supervision of safety kayakers John & Jonathan and BBQ breakfast after in the sunshine! Thanks to Marilyn and Jenny for organising.

21st August – busy day at St Catherine's, there was a sailing boat club event and a fishing camp on at the same time but nevertheless almost 30 swimmers ventured out in the bay across to the rock and back.

4th September we put on a swim at Portelet which we haven't done for the past few years but as you know all organised swims are driven by the tides and this was the perfect time for a swim at Portelet or so we thought! The sea conditions were choppy but the sun was out and everyone who turned up had a fun swim in the waves.

Unfortunately the Karen Delahunty swim on Sept 11th was cancelled due to insufficient kayak cover however a "Whoosh Swim" was held at La Rocque and everyone had great fun feeling that whoosh and being carried around with the tide! I was out observing a round island swim and I could see all the club swimmers as we passed La Rocque.

On **Saturday** 17th September we held the senior club championships at Mike's Slip after the junior club championships which were combined in the last of the junior series swim. It was such a beautiful day in perfect conditions the sun shone and the sea was like glass glistening in the sun. John, Jonathan and Jenny were out in the kayaks also enjoying the perfect conditions together with Chantelle on her paddle board looking after the swimmers and taking photos! Thanks to our timekeepers Marilyn LeG and Sarah Pierce. The men's club champs trophy was awarded to Mark Wanless and Alice Harvey won the ladies club champs trophy. The Junior Club Championship trophies were awarded to Clara Ginnis and Toby Brydon. Well done to all swimmers, kayakers and helpers.

The last Sunday swim for 2022 season was "Charlie's Guinness Swim" we were hoping to swim from St Catherine's to Archirondel and back however there was a big swell and the few boats that were out were really rocking therefore the organisers decided to go from St Catherine's and stay inshore to Mike's Slip and then back to St Catherine's. So pleased we did as the kayakers could just about hold the kayaks down because of the big swell and luckily it appeared we had the best of the weather the sun was out whilst swimming and then it turned overcast after everyone was out! Martin & our visiting German swimmer Stefan and Alice & Rhianna won a can of Guinness each and the 2 juniors home first were Clara Ginnis and Toby Brydon who won a bag of chocolates each. Well done to all swimmers.

During September we held the junior club series kindly sponsored by Granite Products. All swims were well attended and I would like to say congratulations to all our young swimmers who participated this year. Thank you to everyone who helped make these swims such a great success. All swimmers were awarded with certificates and a pottery gift made especially for JLDSC by Julie Pearce. Thank you again to Granite Products and to Julie for making such amazing awards and to the kayakers and timekeepers.

The final Tuesday training session was a night swim held on 27th September the weather was awful it had been raining all day and it was a miserable evening however I could not have predicted that almost 40 swimmers would turn up for a night swim! Everyone was given a light stick and the fun and laughter from the pods of swimmers was echoing all around St Catherine's Bay and the water felt so warm. Well done to all swimmers.

Following the last Tuesday night swim we had the Halloween Night Swim at Bouley Bay on October 29th the fancy dress outfits were amazing and seeing all the light sticks in the water was mesmerising. There was laughter and giggling in the water, and jumping off the pontoon in the dark looked so cool when all you could see were the light sticks it looked fantastic. The carved pumpkins all on the wall sparkling with lights inside leading us back to the slip were incredible. Well done everyone. Thank you to Chantelle & Marilyn for organising.

Now I have to say it's not obligatory to make cakes after a swim but our committee swim organisers are incredible bakers and make the most amazing cakes, and I just wanted to say thank you to each of you for all the baking you do throughout the season to keep our swimmers happy, it is very much appreciated and that also includes the spooky cakes on the Halloween swim which were amazing. "Thank you" again to all our club bakers!

Also many thanks to our fund raising team Marilyn and Pat and the committee for the turquoise back – packs gifts given out to our active members this summer, these were very much appreciated.

That's a wrap for 2022!

Please find below a summary of all completed swims this year. Further details and stories of these swims are in the JLDSC 2022 Bumper Edition Newsletter.

Round Jersey Solo

Iskander Sagarminaga Ateaga, 15th June, 10 hrs 09 mins

Chris Pitman, 13th August, 11hrs 32 mins

Kenny Morrison, 14th August, 11 hrs 11 mins

Steve Henigan, 27th August, 10 hrs 34 mins

Kate Steels, 11th September, 10 hrs 23 mins

Round Jersey Relay

'No Jerseys just Cossies', 27th August, 10 hrs 15 mins

Round Guernsey Relay

RG Mermaids, 13th July, 9 hrs 55 mins

Jersey to France Solo

Claire Poole, 2nd July, 6 hrs 53 mins

James Rondel, 6th July, 8 hrs 54 mins

Brianna Thompson, 18th July, 5 hrs 55 mins

Nicolie Chaffe, 2nd August, 7hrs 01 mins

Connie Simons, 17th August, 7 hrs 15 mins

Andrew Flanagan, 20th August, 7 hrs 26 mins

Amanda Bowden, 23-24th August, 10 hrs 59 mins

Lindi Mitchell, 2nd September, 6 hrs 46 mins

Dani Cameron, 2nd September, 7 hrs 48 mins

Ross Wisby, 13th September, 5 hrs 34 mins

Fernando Espina Velaz, 19 September, 7 hrs 10 mins

Helen Betley, 22nd September, 8 hrs 55 mins - Butterfly

Jersey to France and back Relay

Wild Swim Warriors, 23rd/24th July, 15 hrs 51 mins

Jersey to France Relay

“Swim for Jane”, 1st July, 6 hrs 59 mins

Two Buoys and a Gull, 4th July, 7hrs 29 mins

Wates Construction, 8th July, 7hrs 40mins

Girls just wanna have Swum, 11th July, 8 hrs 30 mins

Audrey’s Happy Mermaids, 24th July, 9 hrs 04 mins

Guernsey to France Solo

Guy Moar, 23rd June, 12hrs 09 mins

English Channel

Sally Minty-Gravett, 7th August, 15 hrs 30 mins

Jo Pullman, 25-26th August, 13 hrs 27 mins

Lake Coniston

Alice Harvey, 25th June, 2hr 40mins

Karen Le Cornu, 25th June, 3 hrs 15 mins

Dee Richards, 2nd September, 4hrs 20mins

Dock 2 Dock 10km

Alice Harvey, 3rd September, 3 hrs 17 mins

Congratulations and well done to each and every swimmer above.

On behalf of JLDSC a special Congratulations goes to Sally Minty-Gravett MBE for her "Channel Swim for Charlie" which she successfully completed this year and this swim being her 6th Channel swim in 6 decades. Charlie would be very proud of you Sal as we are too. Also Congratulations to Sally, for her award from the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame (IMSHOF) for her years of voluntary contribution and organisation of Open Water swimming, predominantly founder member and President of JLDSC for over 27 years. Sally will be presented with this award in New York next May. Well done Sal!

Also Congratulations to Jo Pullman for returning to Dover to successfully complete her Channel swim after being weathered out on the first visit earlier in the year. Well done Jo. Your mother would be very proud of you as we are too.

Thanks to Jenny you can read both Sally & Jo's stories in the recent bumper newsletter emailed out this month.

As always thanks go to our club pilots Martin Powell & John Asplet for giving up their time to take out swimmers on the club boat Sea Swimmer. Please note these swims don't just happen without planning and the support of volunteers to pilot, crew, observe and kayak, thanks to everyone that helps make the dreams come true for our swimmers.

News update if you don't know already is that the club has purchased a new boat for which we have been fund raising for years and it's finally happened so anyone now that swims with the club will have the luxury of a toilet and a shower on board "**Sea Swimmer**" gone are the days now of "bucket and chuck it"! **Sea Swimmer** is now ready and waiting to take the 2023 swims.

We still have our Fancy Dress Xmas Pudding Swim which is scheduled for 11th December meeting at 10:30 am in front of Beau Rivage Hotel, St Brelade's Bay to swim at 11 am and then back to the hotel where we can get warm in the hotel conservatory and buy hot or cold drinks from their bar. Festive nibbles will be provided by the club.

Also please note the last pool session is on Tuesday 13th December 2022 and we commence pool training again on 10th January 2023 through to 28th March 2023.

Special thanks must go to our Vice President Chantelle Le Guilcher who takes photos all summer with the club go-pro, uploads them onto club Facebook, together with updates on all events and swims taking place for us tracker watchers to follow plus any other relevant news. Chantelle has also recently revamped our website too. Thanks Chantelle.

I would like to thank our amazing Committee for all their support and sterling work throughout the year. Please note it's the committee that runs the club and we all work as a team and we are lucky to have a very strong team. However, I'm sorry to inform you that Chantelle Rose is stepping down as our Welfare Officer but we look forward to Billie Cave taking over the role. I would also like to thank Sam Pison for her time on the committee this year too it's been a pleasure working with you Sam. Many thanks to both Chantelle Rose and to Sam Pison for their contribution to the club over the years and I wish them both well. The good news is I'm hoping after this AGM to be welcoming Eilish Barraud onto the committee whom I know will contribute hugely to continue making "JLDSC the greatest little swimming club in the world". I hope you know what you're letting yourself in for Eilish!

I would like to say a special thank you to our treasurer Marilyn Le Guilcher for keeping the books in good order as always, so meticulously neat and accurate, the perfect club treasurer! Thank you to our auditors Simon and Jonathan who always say it's a pleasure to look through such a neat cashbook! Well done and thank you Marilyn.

Also I would like to give a very warm welcome to the Jersey Sport Move More swimmers that have recently joined us in the sea and in the pool you are all doing so well and rapidly progressing. Thanks must go to Martine, for her support, encouragement, and enthusiasm in looking after these swimmers.

I would like to say a special thanks to our stalwart secretary Jenny who is now stepping aside from this role and stepping into the Vice President position and will work closely with Nicki to pass over the role of club secretary. Good luck Nicki! I'm sure Jenny will continue to help organise and observe swims, kayak endlessly for swimmers, pilot and crew on our new club boat, these being just a few of the many jobs done behind the scenes. Equally I'm sure Nicki will be keeping us all in check next year!

Please remember our committee members are all volunteers, if anyone would like to assist and help organise swims, bake cakes, swim with the juniors, assist on poolside or kayak then please let us know as you don't have to be a committee member to help the club!

I would like to give a big thank our "Dinner Ladies" Marilyn and Pat for organising such an amazing JLDSC Annual Dinner, everyone had a fantastic time last night and we're looking forward to next year already!

Sadly we lost a founder member earlier this year, Hazel Lakeman passed away peacefully on 15th May 2022 aged 94 years. We send our sincere condolences to her family. Hazel and her husband Bernard were both part of the team around Denise Le Penneç's first Channel swim.

Finally Congratulations to Jean McLaughlin who recently became a Grandmother again to a beautiful baby girl named Róisín Veno Heather McLaughlin born on 24th October 2022 weighing in at 7 lbs. 8 oz. Congratulations to John James and Denise and Brother Luke on the addition to the McLaughlin family.

I hope you all have a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

2023 will be my last year as President, so let's hope it's a good one!

Looking forward to seeing you all on 1st January 2023 for our New Year Day Swim

Take care and stay safe

Dee Richards

JLDSC President

