

It’s been a challenging year to say the least which began with the resignation of our President Wendy and Committee member Andy, however the remaining 9 Committee members have successfully continued to run the club throughout 2017 with Dee and Adrian stepping in as acting President.

The Committee have worked tirelessly to achieve our accreditation with Jersey Clubmark, which we are very proud of. This is an award for sports clubs who have met high standards in club management, safety, coaching and competition off Island. The benefits include promotion of the club and courses to develop our skills. It will also add weight to any application for sponsorship. We have also produced a one-page brochure promoting JLDSC which has been distributed to swimmers at non JLDSC events.



The committee are continuing to actively search for a club sponsor, it’s not for want of trying and we are still waiting for responses from some large corporates. Sally has also been trying to secure a sponsor for the club too. We have also approached Waitrose so please save your green tokens for when the club has their slot in the stores! However, thank you again to Granite Products for their continued sponsorship of the Junior Series. We are also appreciative of the donation of £1,000 to the club from a benefactor who wishes to remain anonymous.

Following on from last years AGM the committee have taken it on board to communicate more with the members which has resulted in more regular newsletters of the clubs activities being distributed but just to remind you here is a round up of JLDSC 2017.

Our swimming calendar started as always at St Catherine’s however, we had to move the swim from the slipway to Bel Val beach due to safety reasons caused by the inclement weather. Thanks to St. Catherine’s sailing club for the use of their club house for soup and nibbles afterwards and to the club members who made and served the soup. A great start to the New Year. Well done to everyone who took part. We raised £31.21 for the RNLI in donations.

Back in the pool, we had another great turn out over all 8 lanes for the Swimarathon and we raised a total of £629.25!

Well done also to all the 32 swimmers who took part in the postal swim this year, there were lots of PB’s. Well done to Katherine Lowe; silver medal in the Ladies 20-24 year age group and Alice Harvey; silver medal in the Ladies 25-29 year age group.

This year Sylvia Trehiou decided to swim 70k in 70 days to celebrate her 70th birthday which she successfully completed and in doing so raised funds of £2,111.60 which was split between Macmillan Jersey & Diabetes Jersey. Congratulations Sylvia and very well done!

Our Tuesday night pool sessions were well attended and we had dedicated technique sessions. Many thanks to Sally for taking these successful and popular sessions. Also, many thanks to Sarah Pierce for helping out with the junior pool sessions. Please note we plan further structured pool sessions on Tuesday evenings with 2 lanes for the 2 hour swimmers training for longer swims and we will be continuing with the stroke technique once a month for both juniors and seniors and incorporating talks on feeding and nutrition plans.

On January 27th, Past President Sally Minty-Gravett went to Buckingham Palace to collect her MBE. At the annual CS&PF dinner in Dover in March, Sally was honoured to receive the Gertrude Ederle Rose bowl. This award for the most meritorious swim of 2016, was for her 2 Way English Channel swim in August 2016 in 36hrs 26 mins. Then later on in July, Sally was again recognised for this achievement by being awarded the Churchill Award for Courage by Sir William Bailhache at the Bailiff's Chambers.

At the annual local Sports Council dinner in March, Mick Le Guilcher won the Colin Welsh Memorial Trophy which celebrates background volunteers.

At a recent JASA meeting Sally Minty-Gravett MBE was presented with the Open Water Trophy for her 2-way Channel swim. Andy Truscott and Alison Wood were also presented with a special recognition award for being the first duo to swim from Les Minquiers to Jersey. Congratulations and well done to all of you.

Yet again the committee produced another jam-packed summer sea swimming programme with Sunday mornings at various locations around the island and Tuesday evenings at St Catherine’s. We have had some great weather for our weekly swims which has helped to swell our numbers. Tuesday nights have been particularly popular with a regular turnout of 35 swimmers. The swim organisers yet again did not disappoint with an amazing array of cakes and goodies provided for everyone after each Sunday swim.

To ensure the ongoing safety of our swimmers the committee and regular kayakers, John Medder and Jonathan Reynolds, took part in further kayak training. This involved refreshing our kayaking skills and how to deal with common issues and signs of swimmers in distress. We also invited Alan Le Pavoux from the Jersey Aquatic Rescue Club to one of our swims at St Catherine’s to review our procedures. He endorsed our practices whilst recommending we have it written down resulting in our sea safety policy.

Our first swim was moved to Mike’s slip on safety grounds. Well done to the few souls who took the plunge and in particular youngster Emma Mwanga who braved the conditions for her first club sea swim.

St. Catherine’s was once again transformed into a sea of pink for the annual Pink Swim raising funds of just over £200 for MacMillan Jersey.

The usual ‘Memorial’ and trophy swims took place with trophies being presented on the day; the Flambard trophy was awarded to Ellie Hegarty and the De Caux swim awarded to the youngest male and female swimming on the day went to Emma Mwanga and Dawson de Gruchy. The inaugural Robert McLaughlin swim at Green Island was blessed with beautiful weather. A posy of flowers was placed on Robert’s bench before the swim took place. The Masters swim trophies were awarded to the first male and female home over a mile-long course, winners were Robin Johnson and Alice Harvey. Mini Masters trophies awarded to cover the age-group 18-25 years went to lady’s winner Chantelle Le Guilcher.

Club members were once again involved in The Round the Island Challenge which took place in August. Raising funds for the Grace Crocker Family Support Foundation, amongst the many SUP boarders, kayakers and rowers taking part, there were 7 swimming relay teams and 2 solo swimmers.

Well done to all our members who took part in the inaugural Jersey 1st Open Water Festival. This event was blessed with lovely sunny weather and calm sea conditions which contributed to the many PB’s recorded. Particular well done to Ocean Brown and Sam McLaughlin who represented our juniors in the 1km swims. Our senior club championships were incorporated into the 3km and 5km swims on the Sunday and many congratulations to the following winners; Senior ladies champion- Alice Harvey, Senior mens champion- Robin Johnson and Masters age-group winners- Hayley Butlin, Dee Richards, Jenny FitzGerald & Mark Chegwin.

We have also had a good turnout in open water swims organised by the Jersey Swimming Club with many members being awarded age group trophies.

The Junior series proved quite challenging this year with a range of conditions to contend with from flat calm to very choppy seas. The final swim of the series also doubled as the Junior Club Championships and the winners were: Junior Girls - Emma Mwanga and Junior Boys - Dawson de Gruchy: Girls - Ocean Brown and Boys - William Vane

26 swimmers turned out for our traditional night swim on the last Tuesday night outdoors. The sea was flat calm and with a slight mist around there was an eerie feel to the evening.

A few brave swimmers turned up for the Halloween swim, Bouley Bay was spookily decorated with lanterns and pumpkins and an array of Halloween cakes. Many thanks to Marilyn and Chantelle Le Guilcher for organising this evening swim.

We still have one more swim to go the “Xmas Pudding Swim” which is now set for Sunday 10th December 2017 at Wayside meeting at 10.15 for an 10.45 swim with breakfast after the swim. Annette Campbell is the swim organiser. See you all there!

Planning ahead for next year the committee have decided to introduce a longer swim Sunday once a month with the relevant safety cover for those in training for marathon swims. Longer training swims can also be arranged with the club pilots Martin Powell, Adrian Follain and John Asplet, using the club boat, please liaise directly with them.

Mick Le Guilcher decided to stand down as club boat skipper this year. Not only has he spent hours and hours on various slipways around the island supporting, assisting, fundraising and encouraging club swimmers in their endeavours but for over 10 years he has become invaluable as right hand man, cabin boy and experienced pilot on the club boat Sea Swimmer 2. We are very grateful Mick.

We intentionally took on fewer bookings with the club boat Sea Swimmer 2 this year which enabled our new team of pilots Martin, John and Adrian to gain further experience which has now allowed us to take on more bookings for 2018. Several swims didn’t happen because of the weather but we did have 6 successful swims 4 Round Jersey and 2 Jersey to France.

We have continued working with Matt Clarke of Lionheart Pilotage. He has had another successful year pushing the

limits and opening up the Channel Island waters by introducing new swims that the club boat SeaSwimmer2 would never be able to do, breaking boundaries and setting records in the process. Well done and thank you Matt.

We heartily congratulate everyone who took part in a variety of open water swims which have been well documented in our newsletters and they are listed at the end of this report. However, we should like to highlight the following;

In June, Bianca Kempster successfully completed her English Channel swim in a time of 20hrs 1 min 35 seconds. An incredible swim from one of our youngest Channel swimmers for a few years. Bee is also the first solo female swimmer of 2017.

Over 3rd - 4th July, Relay team 'Better Late Than Never' (BLTN) became the first swimmers to swim a 2-way Jersey to France. They landed back in Jersey in a fantastic time of 16 hours 7 minutes. Well done to Adrian Follain, Jenny FitzGerald, Martin Powell, Fay De Gruchy, John Asplet and Chantelle Rose.

After the success of the BLTN relay team, Andy Truscott successfully completed a solo Jersey to France to Jersey swim in a time of 16 hours 39 minutes.

In August, Robin Johnson smashed the overall existing Jersey to France record by over 40 minutes by finishing in a time of 5 hrs 46 mins 29secs. Then in September, [Nichola Murch](https://www.facebook.com/nichola.murch?fref=gs&dti=168864569896372&hc_location=group) set a new ladies record time of 6 hours 23 minutes.

Also in August Linda Breen successfully completed her Lake Windermere swim in a time of 10 hours 04 minutes and then just a few days after swam Lake Coniston, considering Linda only learnt to swim just 4 years ago this was an amazing achievement.

Alice Harvey became the first lady to do a Les Minquiers to Jersey swim finishing in 6 hours 52 minutes, breaking the previous record (which by the way was held by a man!)

Adrian Sarchet completed his 6th Oceans Seven swim when he successfully crossed the Tsugaru Channel in northern Japan in 14 hrs 02 secs.

And finally, future marathon swimmer 11-year-old Ocean Brown completed her first long swim when she swam from St Catherine's to Archirondel and back in 1hr 43 minutes.

BUT not all swims are successful……after waiting for weeks and weeks for a weather window after their original date was blown out, the last chance for the junior relay “A Wave Ahead” to attempt their swim was on 22nd September when the team of William Vane, Ellie Hegarty, Jack Duncan and Piers Willis set off at 0630 on their Round Island adventure on Sea Swimmer 2 with Martin Powell and a guest appearance by Mick Le Guilcher piloting with the team mentor Chantelle Le Guilcher and Adrian Follain kayaking. After battling the jellyfish and sea sickness the elements were against them and the decision was made to stop the swim for the safety of the swimmers and crew. They were all amazing on the day and JLDSC are very proud of everyone on board. Watch this space they haven’t given up they will be more than ready to complete their swim in 2018.

Sarah Tunnicliffe’s Round Jersey swim on 9th July also came to a halt due to the conditions, however Sarah was so determined to complete her swim she got back in the water the next day to finish the missing section!

Of course, none of these swims would take place if it wasn’t for volunteers to pilot, crew and observe swims. As we know the weather and sea conditions control the swims therefore on occasions short notice is given to observers, and in some cases swimmers arrive without their crew and we assist and find crew for them. We greatly appreciate all of our volunteers especially the lastminute.com ones. JLDSC intends to register and join volunteers.je with the hope of obtaining more volunteers to assist with kayaking or crewing for some of our swims.

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family of Pam Stoodley, a former life member who sadly passed away recently.

Finally, we must also mention a milestone birthday coming up this year for one of our stalwarts and Honorary Life Members Jean McLaughlin who will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on Xmas Eve. Happy 80th Jean from all at JLDSC

Many thanks to all our supporters, volunteers, boat crews, kayakers, observers and committee members who work hard throughout the year to make the swims a success.

That’s it folks, well done to all members of the JLDSC for making 2017 such a successful year!!!



**Swims achieved by club members this year**;

Ice Mile- David Coleman, January 14th, 38 mins, (water temp. 4.57°C) Ice Miler number 190 in the world.

Champion of Champions- Andy Truscott , 9 miles in total, 3hrs 18 minutes.

English Channel

Bianca Kempster, 14th June, 20hrs 01min

Nick Adams, 13th August, 12hrs 56mins

English Channel Relay

Last of the Summer Waves, 8th-9th July, 15hrs 17mins, Dee Richards, Sally Minty-Gravett MBE (+ 4 others)

Brown Phatz, 25th September, 17hrs 19mins, Karen Gallichan (+ 4 others)

Lake Windermere

Linda Breen, 29th August, 10hrs 04mins

Wendy Trehiou, 30th August, 6hrs 28mins

Cliff Golding, 15th September, 7hrs 52mins

Lake Coniston

Leigh Chaytor 2.22.30 (2nd in age group)
John Maxey 2.38.46
Wendy Trehiou 2.51.18 (1st in age)
Sarah Pierce 2.54.13
Joanne Pullman 2.54.21 (2nd in age group)
Justine Marett 3.04.06
Bianca Kempster 3.08.25 (2nd in age group)
Karen Gallichan 3.19.16
Dee Richards 3.48.04 (2nd in age group)
David Bailey 4.07.01
Linda Breen 4.24.33

Hever Castle Swim

Wendy Trehiou, 23rd September, 1hr 43mins
Tsugaru Channel, Japan

Adrian Sarchet, 30th August, 14hrs 02secs

**Congratulations to all members and visiting swimmers on their following successful swims in local waters**

Round Jersey Solo

Anke Tinnefeld, 9th July, 12hrs 00mins

Kate Robarts, 25th July, 10hrs 56mins

Ian Holt, 7th August, 13hrs 47mins

Max Beer,11th August, 10hrs 01mins

James Salkeld, 13th August, 10hrs 36mins

Luke Edmonds, 13th August, 10hrs 59mins

Hayley Butlin, 13th August, 11hrs 11mins

Karen Gallichan, 24th August, 11hrs 05mins

Sophie Kelk, 22nd September, 11hrs 19mins

Anna Strachan, 8th October, 9hrs 52mins

Round Jersey Relay

Old Victorians, 13th August, 10hrs 05mins

Jersey Water Polo Team, 13th August, 10hrs 06mins

PWc, 13th August, 10hrs 11mins

Simon O’Donoghue & Friends, 13th August, 10hrs 20mins

Tom O’Connor & Friends, 13th August, 10hrs 29mins

ABN Amro, 13th August, 10hrs 44mins

Swimming with Smiles, 13th August, 11hrs 00mins

Jersey to France to Jersey Relay

Better Late Than Never, 3rd-4th July, 16hrs 07mins

Jersey to France to Jersey Solo

Andy Truscott, 16th July, 16hrs 39mins

Jersey to France Solo

Katherine Lowe, 31st July -1st August, 6hrs 42mins

Simon O’Donoghue, 1st August, 8hrs 08mins

Craig Swart, 1st August, 8hrs 11mins

Toni Buchholz, 1st August, 8hrs 42mins

Sze-Ming Cheung, 7th August, 10hrs 33mins

Alice Harvey, 7th August, 6hrs 43mins

Catherine Stefanutti, 13th August, 7hrs 18mins

Catharine Colwill, 14th August, 8hrs 42mins

Mike Humphreys, 20th August, 6hrs 36mins

Mark Chegwin, 21st August, 8hrs 47mins

Robin Johnson, 24th August, 5hrs 46mins 29secs

Charlotte Vernon, 27th August, 8hrs 37mins

Nik Barnes, 28th August, 9hrs 52mins

Nichola Murch, 2nd September, 6hrs 23mins

Les Minquiers to Jersey Solo

Alice Harvey, 16th August, 6hrs 52mins