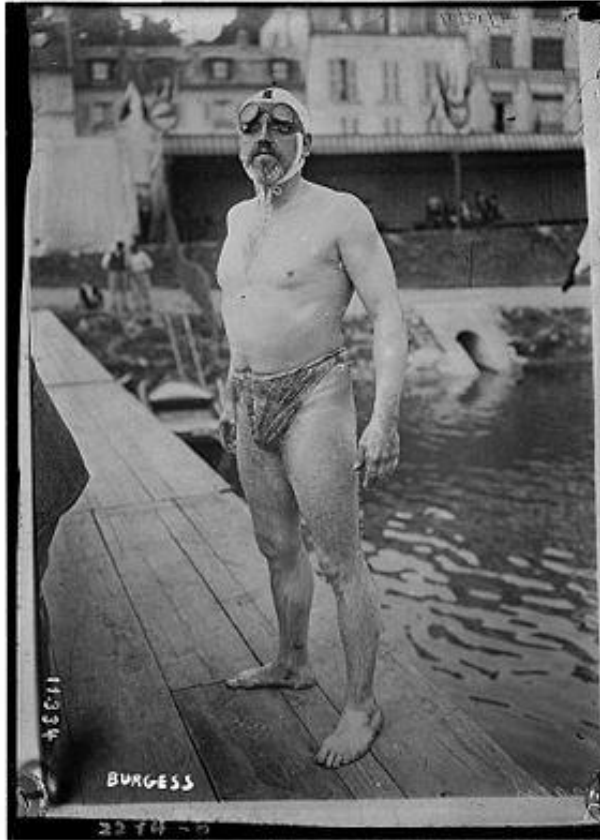




Tom Burgess, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1983



Videos: [Pathé 1](#)

Tom Burgess was the 2nd swimmer across the English Channel in 22 hours and 35 minutes in 1911. His first attempt to swim the English Channel was in the 1904 and he had 12 to 15 unsuccessful attempts in both directions. Famously he took part in the 1905 race (none finished) which saw IMSHOF Honoree Annette Kellerman pitted against five male swimmers.

He was the first swimmer to wear goggles (motorist) during his swims - hence setting a standard for the future. He assisted IMSHOF Honoree Gertrude Ederle to become the first woman to swim the English Channel in 1926. Tom won a bronze medal in the 1900 Olympics in water polo (bronze medal) and competed in swimming.

[Expanded Biography \(Openwaterpedia\)](#)

[Long Swims Database \(Marathon Swimmers Federation\)](#)