Stephen Redmond, Honor Swimmer, Ireland, 2017

Silver Patron

Personal Website (None known)

Stephen Redmond was the first swimmer to complete the Oceans Seven challenge, in his 40s, between August 2009 and July 2012: English Channel in 20 hours and 1 minute, North Channel in 17 hours and 17 minutes, Strait of Gibraltar, Catalina Channel, Cook Strait, Molokai Channel in 22 hours and 29 minutes and Tsugaru Channel.

This former rugby prop with the famous London Irish team, Stephen was never going to be the fastest swimmer. His determination to complete the challenge and be the first in the world drove him to new level of performance. The journey included four serious setbacks. Conditions won on his first attempt of the Molokai Channel and his first three attempts of the Tsugaru Channel.

The quest for international glory accomplished, Stephen turned his sights to the seemingly impossible swim close to home. Soon after returning from Japan he completed a swim in Cork Ireland from Baltimore around the Fastnet Rock and into Schull (24 mile/39 km). Look on Google Earth at this

exposed location, factor in the next landfall to the East being New York, think about the six-hour tidal patterns and imagine that Stephen's motivation was still in place after the Ocean's Seven!

IMSHOF Honoree David Yudovin liked to be the first ever to complete a new swim. He said this could never be taken away – but being the fastest would only last a little while. The record has been established. Stephen Redmond from Cork Ireland was, and always will be, the first to have completed the Oceans Seven Challenge.

Expanded Biography (Openwaterpedia)

Long Swims Database (Marathon Swimmers Federation)

Irish Translation

Ba é **Stephen Redmond** an chéad snámhaí riamh chun an dúshlán Oceans Seven a chríochnú. Idir Mí Lúnasa de 2009 agus Mí Iúil de 2012, agus é in aois a dhá scór is cuid eile de bhlianta, shnámh sé an Mhuir nIocht, Sruth na Maoile, Caolas Ghiobráltar, Sruth Catalina, Caolas Cook, Sruth Molokai agus Caolas Tsugaru.

Mar iarr-thaca le London Irish RFC, ní raibh aon eagla ann go mbeadh Stephen i measc na snámhaithe is tapúla. Ba é an diongbháilteacht a bhí aige chun an beart seo a dhéanamh a thóg ard-léiriú as. Cuireadh cúl air ceithre huaire: bhuaigh an fharraige air nuair a bhain sé triall as Sruth Molokai den chéad uair agus tharla an rud céanna dó i gCaolas Tsugaru go dtí an ceathrú iarracht a bhí aige, cathain a sháraigh sé faoi dheoidh.

Agus glóire idirnáisiúnta bainte amach aige, thosaigh Stephen ag smaoineamh faoi thrasnú snámha ina dhúthaigh féin, snámh a cheaptaí do-dhéanta. Níorbh fhada ó d'fhill sé ón Seapáin gur shnámh sé thar farraigí móra Loch Trasna ó Dhún na Séad go dtí an Scoil, bealach Charraig Aonair! Is é sin 24 míle nó 39 km sa tslí, gan trácht a dhéanamh ar chumhacht na taoide ar an dtaobh sin tíre… Níl a fhios ag éinne conas a bhí díograis a dhóthain fós aige agus é díreach tar éis an Oceans Seven a chríochnú.

Dúirt David Yudovin, Snámhaí Onóra san IMSHOF, gur bhreá leis riamh bheith ina chéad duine chun trasnú snámha nua a chríochnú – rud seasmhach is ea é sin, nuair is rud sealadach é bheith i do dhuine is tapúla. Mar sin, is féidir a fhógairt: Stephen Redmond ó Chontae Chorcaí – mar a bhí ansin, mar atá anois agus mar a bheidh trí shaol na saol – an chéad duine riamh a rinne an éacht oll-mhór sin, an Oceans Seven.