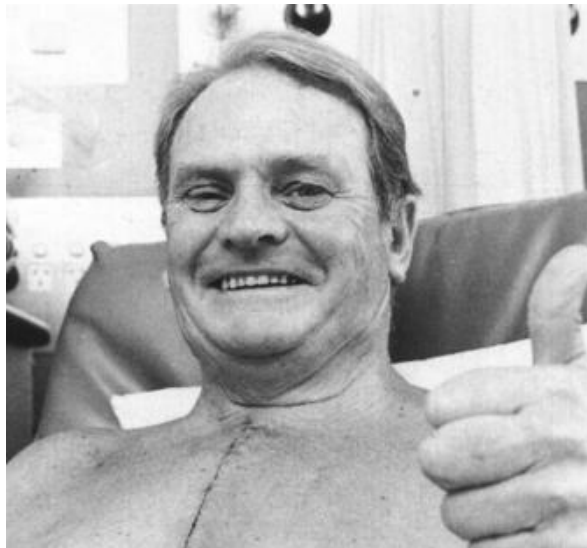




Des Renford, MBE, Honor Swimmer, Australia, 1978



Videos: [Show 1](#) [Show 2 at 0:09](#)

Des Renford was the first to complete three crossings of the English Channel in a year. He was King of the Channel® between 1975 and 1979 with 16 successful crossings of the English Channel and briefly in 1980 when he achieved his eighteenth crossing. Des won a 60 km race down the Murray River from Mindook Creek to Mildura in Australia in 1969 in 19 hours.

He swam 93 km from Watson's Bay Sydney Harbour to North Wollongong Harbour in 1974 in 27 hours 30 minutes; 22.5 km 2-way Sydney Harbour swim between Luna Park and Manly; 36.6 km across Queensland's Moreton Bay in Australia in 1973.

He was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2016.

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

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