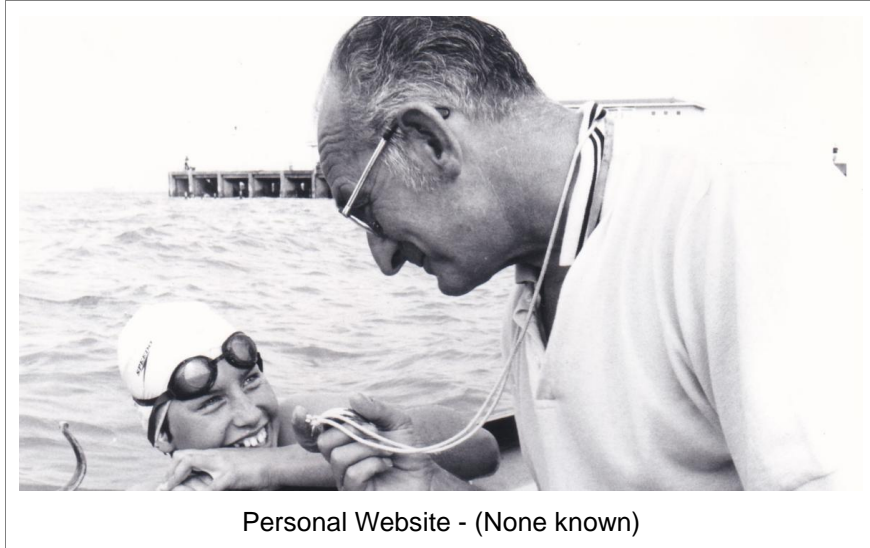




Thomas H. Watch, Honor Coach, Great Britain, 1986



Personal Website - (None known)

Thomas Watch coached and mentored long distance and channel swimmers for 60 years who needed support, training, encouragement and advice. Tom's career began with Geoffrey Chapman in the 1951 Daily Mail Cross Channel race who was the first British swimmer to finish. He has accompanied more than 100 swimmers across the English Channel, both from his native Weymouth, but also from across the world. In 1965, he accompanied Phil Gollop, who became the youngest swimmer to cross at that time. Some of the swimmers he has mentored include IMSHOF Honorees Marc Newman, Peter Jurzinsky and Chad Hunderby who made the fastest Channel Swimming Association crossing on record. Other swimmers included Jacqui Hampson who was the youngest female at the time and Samantha Druce, who at 12 years of age became the youngest of all time and IMSHOF Honoree Doc Counsilman, who was the oldest at that time. In 1982, Tom was an Observer on IMSHOF Honoree Jon Erikson's historic three-way swim.

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

Long Swims Database (Marathon Swimmers Federation) - no entry expected