



Annette Kellerman, Honor Swimmer, Australia, 1965



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Annette Kellerman won numerous swimming titles in the Thames, Danube, Boston Harbor and Seine between 1905 and 1907. She was the first woman to attempt to swim the English Channel in 1905 but failed on three occasions.

Annette was instrumental in the evolution of women's swimwear and famous for her advocacy of the right of women to wear a one-piece bathing suit, which was a controversial topic in the early 20th century. Her life story inspired the MGM classic Million Dollar Mermaid.

She was inducted in the International Swimming Hall of Fame (1974) and received the Buck Dawson Authors Award - Honorable Mention.

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