



Barry Watson, Honor Swimmer, Great Britain, 1973



Videos: [Interview 1](#) [Swim 1](#)

Barry Watson set an English Channel record in 1964 in 9 hours and 35 minutes – which held until 1976. His two 3 other crossings were: 16 hours and 19 minutes in 1968, 13 hours and 56 minutes in 1969; and in 15 hours and 14 minutes in 1970. He set the speed record for 2-way Windermere (Waterhead to Lakeside and return) in 1966 in 12 hours and 24 minutes and again in 1967 in 12 hours and 9 minutes – which stood until 1969.

Barry was the champion of the IMSHOF Honor Organization, the British Long Distance Swimming Association: Lake Windermere in 1963 and 1964; Loch Lomond in 1967 champion; 2-way Lake Windermere in 1966, 1967 and 1968; and Fleetwood to Morecambe in 1963, 1965, 1966 and 1967. He swam across Lake Windermere 39 times. In 1970 he swam Windemere, Ullswater and Coniston in one day. Barry completed the 37 km Lancaster to Morecambe Championship swim in 7 hours and 2 minutes in 1965.

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

