



**Commander Gerald Forsberg, OBE, Master Mariner,
FNI, Royal Navy (Retired) Honor Swimmer, Great
Britain, 1965**



Personal Website - (None known)

Commander Gerald Forsberg, OBE, Master Mariner, FNI, Royal Navy (Retired) competed in 211 long distance swims, logging 2,021 km (1,256 miles) in championship swims and was President of the Channel Swimming Association between 1963 and 1997. Commander Forsberg was the British Long Distance Swimming Association champion in Windermere (1957-1958), Tobray (1958), Loch Lomond (1959) and the record holder in Lough Neagh, Morecambre Bay 2-way, Windermere 2-way, and the English Channel (record holder between 1957 and 1959 from England to France). He also set a record in the Bristol Channel in 1964 and completed over 14,162 km (8,800 miles) of swimming in open water. He was also the president of the British Long Distance Swimming Association between 1982 and 1983, president of the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame and a Life Member of the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association.

He was the author of three books, numerous articles promoting the Royal and Merchant Navy's swimming, life saving interests and long distance swimming and was a regular columnist for the Nautical Magazine starting in 1957 and Swimming Times promoting long distance swimming for 40 years. His publications include Long Distance Swimming (1957), First Stokes in Swimming (1961), Modern Long Distance Swimming (1963), Salvage from the Sea (1977) and numerous short stories, articles and papers for general periodicals and technical journals. For these works he received the Buck Dawson Authors Award and Davids/Captain Roger W. Wheeler Memorial Award in 1971 for his contribution to the administration of open water swimming from the International Swimming Hall of Fame. In 1998, he was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame as a Pioneer Contributor (1998). He was the fifth recipient in 2021 of The Dale Petranek Award for Service to the International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame.

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

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