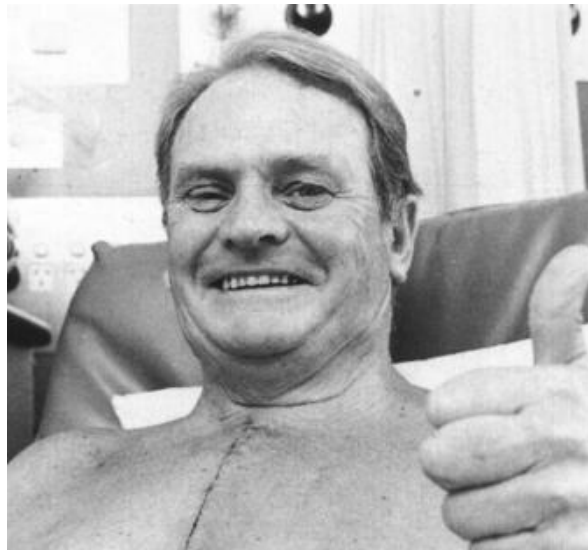




**Des Renford, MBE, Honor Swimmer, Australia, 1978**



Personal Website (None known)

**Des Renford** was King of the Channel® between 1975 and 1979 with 16 successful crossings of the English Channel that included ten records. He was the first person complete three crossings in a year. He was also King of the Channel® briefly in 1980 when he achieved his eighteenth crossing. Des swam the 22.5 km (13.9-mile) Sydney Harbour swim from Luna Park to Manly and back in Australia. He won a 60 km (37.2-mile) race down the Murray River from Mindook Creek to Mildura in Australia in 1969 in 19 hours. He swam a 36.6 km (22.7-mile) race across Queensland's Moreton Bay in Australia in 1973. He completed a 90 km (55.9-mile) ocean swim from Watsons Bay to Wollongong in 27 hours 30 minutes in 1974. He set a record for a swim around Alcatraz Island in 1977. He also received the International Swimming Hall of Fame Certificate of Merit in 2011 and was inducted in 2016.

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

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