

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)



95th Dublin City Liffey Swim

Ireland's Premier Open Sea Swimming Race

Saturday 13 September 2014



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) #liffeyswim95



95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

1. Executive Summary.....	4
2. Race Report	5
3. Electronic Timing	7
4. Safety	8
5. Leinster Open Sea.....	8
6. Leinster Open Sea Calendar	9
7. Overseas Visitors and Swimmers	10
8. Dublin Fire Brigade Showers	13
9. Men’s Race	15
10. Ladies’ Race.....	16
11. Rachel Lee Writes.....	17
12. Marion Lee writes	18
13. Winners’ Cups	20
14. On Line Press	21
15. Printed Press.....	21
16. Radio	21
17. Youtube and Vimeo Video	22
18. Towards 100 Liffey Swim	22
19. Dublin Civil Defence	22
20. Acknowledgments.....	23
21. Appendix I Races in 2014.....	24
22. Appendix II Races in 2013	25
23. Appendix III Races in 2012	26
24. Appendix IV Press Cuttings.....	27

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

1. Executive Summary

The 95th Dublin City Liffey Swim was successfully run this year on Saturday 13 September 2014 with both help and generous sponsorship from Dublin City Council. The race attracted over 360 swimmers both men and ladies of all ages. The Dublin Liffey Swim is Ireland's premier Open Sea Race. This spectacular event provides the public with a free event that they can follow along the various historic Dublin landmarks culminating at the finish in front of the the Custom House.

This report gives a description of the event held and recognises the contribution Dublin City Council has made. Planning has already commenced for the 2015 Liffey Swim and it is hoped that the partnership between Leinster Open Sea, the Liffey Swim and Dublin City Council continues.

Leinster Open Sea would like to thank Dublin City Council for their generous sponsorship of the Dublin City Liffey Swim. The Open Sea Committee would like also to thank the various departments within Dublin City Council, which help to make the race a successful:

- Events (Tom Doyle);
- Press Office (Alan Breen, Paul Heffernan and Sinead Muphy);
- Sports and Recreation;
- Dublin Civil Defence;
- Dublin Fire brigade.

Leinster Open Sea are also delighted that so many employees of Dublin City Council compete both in the Leinster Open Sea Races and the Dublin City Liffey Swim. We were delighted that Rachel Lee of Dublin Fire Brigade won the ladies' race. A well deserved win.

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

2. Race Report

The 95th Dublin City Liffey Swim was successfully run this year on Saturday 13 September 2014. The Liffey swim is the final race in the Leinster Open Sea Calendar and attracts competitors both nationally and internationally.

Leinster Open Sea were delighted that the Lord Mayor of Dublin Christie Burke was able to join us to start both the men's and ladies races.

The Lord Mayor said "The Liffey Swim is a wonderful part of the city's sporting and social history. I would like to congratulate the 361 swimmers who have qualified to take part in the 95th Liffey Swim."



Competitors of all ages, abilities and nationalities took part, with teenagers pitting their strengths against 70 year olds and club swimmers from all over the country competing against each other. Each of the competitors is assigned a time handicap, according to their level of proficiency.

The Dublin City Liffey Swim was first run in 1920 when it was devised by Bernard Fagan an engineer in Dublin Corporation to show the citizens the good quality of the water in the Liffey.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)



The Dublin City Liffey swim is one of the most famous open sea races throughout the world. It is unique in that Dublin is the only capital city in Europe to have a swimming race through the middle of the city. The Dublin City Liffey Swim is the highlight of the open sea swimming season and in particular for native Dubliners there is something special about being able to swim down the Liffey in early September. The Liffey Swim also provides a great spectacle for the Dublin public who line the quays, boardwalks and bridges along the mile and a quarter course to catch a glimpse of this unique event.

In 2012 & 2013 Leinster Open Sea moved the race down stream from the Loop Line Bridge to the East Link Bridge due to the construction of the Rosie Hackett Bridge. This was of course the first year that the race went under the new Rosie Hackett (“LUAS”) bridge. Iarnród Éireann kindly donated a prize for the first two swimmers in both the men’s and the ladies’ race under the bridge.

Following completion of the new Rosie Hackett Bridge, the race returned to its traditional course beginning at the Rory O’More Bridge near Guinness Brewery.

The race followed the river downstream with swimmers swimming past Collins Barracks, The Four Courts, Dublin City Councils’ Civic Offices, Liberty Hall and swimming under the following bridges - Rory O’More Bridge, James Joyce Bridge, Liam Mellows Bridge, Father Mathew Bridge, O’Donovan Rossa Bridge, Grattan Bridge, Millennium Bridge, Ha’penny Bridge, O’Connell Bridge, Rosie Hackett Bridge, Butt Bridge and the Loopline Bridge. The race finished at the quay wall just beside the Customs House.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

Leinster Open Sea and the wider swimming community were delighted to be able to return to the traditional course as it allows swimmers to swim through the centre of Dublin underneath the iconic bridges. The race itself was longer and harder than the previous two years fitting for what is the premier race or “All Ireland Final” of open sea swimming.

The Dublin City Liffey Swim is regarded as an Open Sea Race as for much of the race swimmers were battling against an incoming tide and were swimming in salt water. This year in the interest of safety at the finish we ran the men’s race two hours before full tide and this made it more difficult as the men had to swim against a strong incoming tide. Even so out of over 260 men only three men retired from the race. This reflects the importance of the four swims rule as we know that the vast majority of swimmers who have completed the four qualifying races are capable of completing the course on the day.

For the ladies it was a weaker tide but still incoming. This is reflected in the slower times for the winners and all the other competitors.

Competitors from over twenty different Swimming Clubs took part in the 2014 Dublin City Liffey Swim. Many of these Clubs are decades old and their members train in Dublin City Council pools throughout the City. The Liffey Swim is unique from the participant’s perspective as it draws swimmers from all walks of life that gather annually to compete in this wonderful event. The social as well as the Cultural aspect of this event cannot be underestimated. Each swimmer is ready to switch from competitor to assistant in the unlikely event of a fellow swimmer needing assistance.

3. Electronic Timing

Leinster Open Sea used electronic timing to record the finish of both races. We had used electronic timing in 2009 and 2010 however we found it to be unsatisfactory.

In the Liffey, swimmers are in a body of moving water which added to the difficulty of using electronic timing. This year we hung the electronic timing gantry from a crane “cherry picker” and this provided us with satisfactory result at the finish. We intend to continue to use electronic timing going forward in future years.

The Dublin Port Company provided us with two extra ribs so that in the event that the electronic timing did not work we could revert to a manual system of recording results as we have done in previous years.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

4. Safety

Leinster Open Sea takes a professional approach to the safety of the participants and those who contribute to the Liffey Swim. The safety of swimmers and spectators is our first and foremost objective.

Leinster Open Sea employed Mr. Denis Herily a professional safety officer to act as safety officer on the day of the race.

A full risk assessment and safety plan was prepared by the Liffey Swim Race Manager Mr. Gus Cooney in conjunction with Mr. Denish Herily.

All Irish Swimmers competing in the Liffey Swim are required to complete four qualifying Open Sea Races. Overseas swimmers are assessed by way of their entry form and by phone interview before their entries are accepted into the race.

Leinster Open Sea liaise with Dublin Fire Brigade, An Garda Síochána before and during the race.

Leinster Open Sea employ both Dublin Civil Defence and teams of Kayakers to provide safety cover along the race course. Volunteers from the swimming clubs of Dublin act as stewards at the start and finish points of the race.

5. Leinster Open Sea

The Dublin City Liffey Swim is run each year by the Leinster Open Sea (a not for profit voluntary committee) and is the final swimming race in the Leinster Open Sea Calendar of over 33 Races.

The primary aim of Leinster Open Sea is to run open sea races so that swimmers of all ages and abilities can swim and race in the sea in a low cost and safe environment.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

6. Leinster Open Sea Calendar

Leinster Open Sea runs in partnership with the swimming clubs of Leinster over thirty open sea races from June to September each year. These races are at well know swimming locations along the coast of Dublin, Wicklow and Wexford. Leinster Open Sea run races at Malahide, Portmarnock, Howth, Bull Wall, Great South Wall Ringsend, Seapoint, Dun Laoghaire, Sandycove, Bray, Wicklow and Curracloe. There is usually two races each weekend.

In order to compete in the Liffey Swim, swimmers living in Ireland must complete four qualifying races from the Leinster Open Sea Calendar to show that they are capable of completing the arduous course.

Leinster Open Sea and the wider swimming community believe that the Liffey Swim is a prestigious race and that swimmers should earn their place by qualifying. Swimming is a sport for all and a sport for life. We want people to take up the sport of swimming and stay in the sport of swimming. Most people who compete in the Liffey Swim will come back and compete again.

<u>Leinster Open Sea Races</u>	Mens	Ladies	Total
2011	2,715	1,388	4,103
2012	2,871	1,680	4,551
2013	3,346	1,846	5,192
2014	3,427	1,638	5,121

The Leinster Open Sea is happy to report that the overall number of competitors competing in the Leinster Open Sea Races is increasing year on year. (See Appendices I to III below).

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

7. Overseas Visitors and Swimmers

Leinster Open Sea welcomed this year swimmers who have travelled from US, UK, Switzerland and the Netherlands to compete in the 95th Dublin City Liffey Swim.

Overseas swimmers are allowed to directly enter the race as obviously it would not be possible for them to complete four qualifying swims. Leinster Open Sea screens overseas swimmers before accepting their entries to ensure they are capable of completing the course.



Sabrina Weidmer from Switzerland who earlier in the summer swam the North Channel between Ireland and Scotland.

There were 9 sets of parents competing against their children including Brian Murphy and his 4 sons - Martin, Aidan, Colm and Stephen. The winner of the men's race Gerald Wilkes was competing against his father Derek Wilkes (who won the race in 1989) and the winner of the ladies' race Rachel Lee was competing against her mother Marion.

Ailish Smyth an employee of Dublin City Council and who represented Ireland at the 1988 Olympic games successfully completed the course.

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)



Brian Murphy and his four sons

Leinster Open Sea was also delighted to welcome some of the locals who live on the Liffey to the 95th Dublin City Liffey Swim.



95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) #liffeyswim95



95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)

8. Dublin Fire Brigade Showers



Greg O'Dwyer of Dublin Fire Brigade coming through the Fire Brigade Showers

Dublin Fire Brigade provides the swimmers with their famous public showers on Custom House Quay.

We were also joined by the Dublin Fire Brigade Pipe Band who entertained both swimmers and spectators alike on Custom House Quay and before the presentation of the winners' cups on the Famine Ship Jeannie Johnson.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)



**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)

9. Men's Race

The men's race was by Gerald Wilkes of North Dublin.

Gerald's father Derek Wilkes won the race in 1989 continuing the great father and son tradition in the race. Derek Wilkes also competed in this year's Dublin City Liffey Swim.



95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)

10. Ladies' Race



Above Rachel with her partner Tom Healy after winning the ladies' race. (Tom who is also a fireman swam in the men's race)

The ladies' race was won by Rachel Lee of Guinness SC and Dublin Fire Brigade. Rachel had already won this year the Lake Zurich Marathon Race in August and the 10 Kilometre Open Sea Race in Lough Dan.

Rachel was the scratch swimmer with a handicap of 15 minutes wearing the famous "red" hat. She entered the water last and finished first. Rachel's mother Marion Lee also joined her competing in the Ladies' Race.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

11. Rachel Lee Writes

I remember years and years ago watching men and woman of all different ages, shapes and sizes swimming the Liffey race. And I remember thinking no way they are all mad!

Now years later thankfully I am also one of those swimmers. Perhaps a little bit mad but totally in love with open water swimming and especially in love with the Liffey. There is just something about it, maybe as it is the last swim of the season, the build up towards it, having to do four sea swims to qualify, knowing it is a major swim. But to me the Liffey is the blue ribbon event of open water swimming.

I love how everyone is in great form, cracking jokes, laughing and smiling, perhaps a few people nearly in tears with worry as it is their first time to swim the Liffey, the unknown, the mad rumours about rats as big as dogs under O'Connell Bridge, ready to snap at you as you swim in complete darkness, but I know that in a short time those who were in fear will soon be exhilarated and so proud of their accomplishment.

I love the comradery between everyone and it lasts before, during and after the swim, being able to swim with your closest friends, husbands, wives, brothers, sisters, son and daughters and even your parents makes it such a special event to share. I know that already I have some of my most treasured memories from this river and have so much more to come!

Swimming in the Liffey can be surreal, seeing people looking down at you, cheering you on, also thinking your mad, seeing some of Dublin's most beautiful and historical buildings from the river while swimming can also give you a different perspective. I wonder if Jack Yeats had swum the Liffey would his famous painting have been different!

To win the Liffey is something that I have always dreamed of, it goes to show that some dreams come true! I still can't believe it but when I look at the famous Liffey swim painting which I received, I know it happened.

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorsea.ie
leinsteorseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorsea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

12. Marion Lee writes

The Liffey Swim 2014 what it meant to me!

My daughter Rachael is the swimmer in the family. Her achievements are amazing especially as she is a Mum to two twins 22 month old and a full time Firefighter.

It is because of her that I started swim training in 2011 when she had her swimming club, Guinness, accept me as a member. The “Jonnniers” took me in and have helped me to become a sea swimmer and to realize my childhood dream of taking part in the Liffey swim. For years I have watched, admired and supported Rachael and her wonderful swimming buddies in the sea swims and The Liffey swim.

Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would ever brave the cold water and head out to sea in togs! I could swim, in fact I am a swim teacher but while I admired the many men and women who come together every weekend to swim in the sea; some all year round, it terrified me to take part especially in my late 50’s. I soon discovered age means nothing when you are in the sea races! After improving my stamina and being whipped into shape, the summers have now become ruled by where and when the next sea swim takes place.

I had taken part in one Liffey swim but it was not the true course (due to the building of the Rosie Hackett Bridge). I wanted to swim the course from Watling Street Bridge to the Custom’s House. A course I have run, roaring louder than Molly Malone at Rachael to kick, kick, making death defying leaps and dodges around the traffic and sometimes the people of Dublin. Risking life and limb then scrumming my way through to see her finish.

This year was my turn and having Rachael in the same race made it special. Rachael was scratch; over 15 minutes behind the rest of us! I wanted this to be her year to win! After all she holds the record for the most fastest times. (I promised not to beat her!)

I was so nervous but once again the swimmers, men and women, young and younger, family members, swimming together, swimmers of all shapes and sizes were there supporting each other. The camaraderie was tangible. Leinster Open Sea had everything under control. I knew I was safe and all I had to do was finish the race and make all my family proud. The supporters on Watling Street Bridge and along the quayside were all cheering. The Lord Mayor of Dublin Chrisy Burke asked the ladies to sing Molly Malone and I felt honoured to be part of this amazing group.

Once in the water I could see Dublin from a completely different perspective. My son, brother and sister in law stayed with me, encouraging me along the way.

It was a tough swim. I had been told “Oh the tide will drag you along”. Not this year. Though I was slow and the swimmers were flying past me I really did enjoy the sights. Swimming under all the bridges was fantastic. Having the kayakers along the way was a great asset and I am grateful to the lovely chap who came to my aid when I got really bad leg cramp (excuses)! I did manage to finish the race and I am very happy to say “I swam the Liffey Swim 2014, and I intend to swim many more”.

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)

The highlight of the event was to be met, in the water, by my beautiful daughter and for her to say “I won”. I was happy and sad, so happy that she had won, sad that I missed her finish. Thankfully I did see her powerful swimming on the Dublin City Council’s promo video.

I would like to thank Leinster Open Sea who work so hard to plan and arrange the Summer of swimming; The friends and fellow swimmers who are just so supportive and welcoming; all those who make the Liffey Swim such a blue ribbon event for sea swimmers.

I believe Dublin tourism and Dublin City Council could make this event into a bigger attraction as so many visitors were heard asking “What’s going on”?

I love the river Liffey. I believe it has more to offer the people of Dublin. I believe it should become better developed as a tourist attraction with more activity on the water and help Dubliners appreciate it more.



Rachel Lee and Marion Lee after the race

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) #liffeyswim95

13. Winners' Cups

The winners' of both races were presented with the Historic Liffey Cups by Mr. Owen Keegan of Dublin City Council at the famine ship the Jeannie Johson.



Medals were also presented to Sabrina Weidmer for her North Channel Solo Swim (Ireland to Scotland) and to Mr. Jimmy Markey winner of the 1954 Liffey Swim. Rachel also received a medal in honour of her win in Lake Zurick.

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

14. On Line Press

<http://www.irishtimes.com/dublin-s-annual-liffey-swim-1.1928670>

http://www.irishtimes.com/news/environment/hundreds-of-swimmers-take-a-dive-for-dublin-s-liffey-swim-1.1928427?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

http://thescore.thejournal.ie/19-best-pics-liffey-swim-dublin-1670258-Sep2014/?utm_source=shortlink

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/annual-liffey-swim-a-splash-hit-for-hundreds-30586721.html>

Leinster Open Sea worked in conjunction with Paul Heffernan and Sinead Muprhy of the Dublin City Council Press office to gain as much coverage for the race as possible.

The press boats paid off as the three main online newspapers the Irish Times, the Irish Independent and the Journal all took up the offer of the press boats and gave good coverage on the Sunday, the day after the race. Both the Irish Times and the Irish Independent had online video coverage.

15. Printed Press

Both the press launch and the race itself gained coverage in the printed media. Please find attached at appendix IV some of the articles printed in the days before and after the race:

- Evening Herald
- Sunday Independent
- Sunday Mirror
- Sunday Times
- Irish Times
- Irish Independent
- Irish News
- The Star
- Southside People

16. Radio

The City Council Press Officer were able to arrange radio interviews with

- Cityfm;
- 98fm;
- Q104;
- Today FM; and

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorsea.ie
leinsteorseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorsea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](https://twitter.com/LeinsterOpenSea) #liffeyswim95

- 2FM

Because Leinster Open Sea hire the 98fm bus for the finish area 98FM gave the race extended coverage on their news and in the run up to the race itself. Again Leinster Open Sea worked in conjunction with the Dublin City Press office and we had several interviewees ready and available for interviews about the race.

Leinster Open Sea promoted the race using both our facebook page www.facebook.com/leinsteorsea and our website www.leinsteorsea.ie. (We are currently reorganising the Leinster Open Sea website.)

Likewise the Events unit of Dublin City Council and the Lord Mayor's Office promoted the race on the Dublin City Council web site and on the Dublin City facebook page.

Both the City Council and Leinster Open Sea used the hash tag #liffeyswim95 on twitter which again helped to spread word of the race to the a wider audience.

17. Youtube and Vimeo Video

We arrange and gave access for two camera crews to make videos of this year's Dublin City Liffey Swim. We hope to incorporate them in future online "social media" promotion of the Liffey Swim.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eWK1OBM-pfI>
- <http://vimeo.com/106547981>

18. Towards 100 Liffey Swim

Cryil Smyth a retired Trinity College Professor has started to write a history of the Liffey Swim. We have published on the Leinster Open Sea Website the first forty years.

19. Dublin Civil Defence

Leinster Open Sea would like to acknowledge the work that James McConnell and the rescue crews in the Dublin Civil Defence do for us both at the Dublin City Liffey Swim and also at the other races on the Leinster Open Sea Calendar. We are all extremely grateful to Dublin Civil Defence.

**95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September**

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

20. Acknowledgments

Leinster Open Sea would like to thank and acknowledge the contribution the following people made in running this year's Dublin City Liffey Swim:

- Lord Mayor of Dublin Christy Burke;
- Mr. Owen Keegan Dublin City Manager;
- Charlie Murphy and Edel Currie Dublin Port Company Limited
- Mr. Jimmy Reilly Race Referee;
- Mr. Frank Carroll Honourable Handicapper;
- Mary Drumm Honorable Handicapper;
- Cosaint Shibhialta (Civil Defense);
- An Garda Síochána
- Dublin Fire Brigade
- Dublin Port Company
- Irish Water Safety
- Mr. Neil Nissen Boat owner
- Mr. Gus Cooney Liffey Swim Race Manager;
- Finish Manager Mr. Kevin Healy Sandycove Swimming Club;
- Start Manager Mr. Joe Gavaghan ESB Swimming Club;
- Over 40 Stewards from the swimming clubs of Dublin
- Captain Jon O'Neil of Dublin River Cruises and the Jeannie Johnson

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

21. Appendix I Races in 2014

Club	Race	Men	Ladies	Total
Glenalbyn SC	Sandycove	133	66	199
NAC Masters	River Liffey Docklands	150	66	216
Meath Masters	Lough Leane	37	28	65
Garda SC	Portmarnock	118	56	174
North Dublin SC	Bull Wall - Plunkett McAllister Cup	127	69	196
Templeogue SC	Seapoint	151	91	242
Half Moon SC	Killiney - Bob Bushell Cup	123	53	176
Wexford Masters	Curracloe - Tracey Lawlor Memorial Cup	38	27	65
Eastern Bay SC	Low Rock Malahide	141	68	209
Wicklow SC	Mid Summer Race	104	70	174
Half Moon SC	South Wall - Arthur Dunne Memorial	129	47	176
Dublin	Killiney Beach	134	92	226
Garda SC	Seapoint - Special Olympics Charity Race	115	57	172
Sandycove SC	Dun Laoghaire to Blackrock - Eddie Herron	113	46	159
Wicklow SC	Wicklow Harbour -Healy O'Kane Cup	124	71	195
Aer Lingus SC	Portmarnock Beach	114	66	180
Guinness SC	Malahide - International Orphan Aid	141	61	202
Guinness SC	Seapoint - Cyrill Duff Memorial Cup	136	61	197
Wicklow SC	Wicklow - Wicklow Open	123	75	198
Phoenix SC	Killiney Beach - Phoenix Cup	128	66	194
Open Sea	Dun Laoghaire Harbour Race	151	58	209
Clontarf SC	Ireland's Eye to Howth - The Island Race	85	16	101
Half Moon SC	Bray Promenade - Kilmartin Cup	80	41	121
Clontarf SC	Bull Wall - Bobby Nolan Trophy	131	43	174
St Vincent's WPSC	High Rock	113	28	141
Guinness SC	Windsurfers' Pier People with a Disability	97	19	116
Open Sea	Killiney Beach -Caring for Pdraig	65	19	84
Open Sea	Dublin City Liffey Swim	258	110	368
Corribh SC	Prom Swim Galway	48	48	96
Open Sea	Lough Dan National 5k and Leinster 10k	20	20	96
		3,427	1,638	5,121

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

22. Appendix II Races in 2013

Club	Race	Men	Ladies	Total
Half Moon SC	Killiney - Bob Bushell Cup	101	41	142
Half Moon SC	Bray Promenade - Kilmartin Cup	85	31	116
Garda SC	Portmarnock	120	57	177
Glenalbyn SC	Sandycove	144	82	226
NAC Masters	River Liffey Docklands	125	69	194
Templeogue SC	Seapoint	122	71	193
Wexford Masters	Curracloe - Tracey Lawlor Memorial Cup	47	35	82
Dublin	Killiney Beach	126	75	201
North Dublin SC	Bull Wall - Plunkett McAllister Cup	136	59	195
Wicklow SC	Mid Summer Race	91	77	168
Carraig Masters	Campbell O'Connor Trophy	125	63	188
Corribh SC	Prom Swim Galway	38	23	61
St Vincent's WPSC	High Rock	126	57	183
Half Moon SC	South Wall - Arthur Dunne Memorial	118	41	159
Eastern Bay SC	Low Rock Malahide	112	69	181
Clontarf SC	Bull Wall - Bobby Nolan Trophy	150	74	224
Half Moon SC	Killiney - Siobhan McKenna Cup	136	65	201
Garda SC	Seapoint - Special Olympics Charity Race	111	64	175
Sandycove SC	Dun Laoghaire to Blackrock - Eddie Herron	123	86	209
Guinness SC	Seapoint - Cyril Duff Memorial Cup	127	71	198
Wicklow SC	Wicklow - Wicklow Open	121	86	207
Phoenix SC	Killiney Beach - Phoenix Cup	118	79	197
Guinness SC	Malahide - International Orphan Aid	112	76	188
Meath Masters	Lough Leane	44	32	76
Open Sea	Lough Dan National 5k and Leinster 10k	21	11	32
Aer Lingus SC	Portmarnock Beach	126	63	189
Open Sea	Dublin City Liffey Swim	218	114	332
Clontarf SC	Ireland's Eye to Howth - The Island Race	79	23	102
Wicklow SC	Wicklow Harbour -Healy O'Kane Cup	70	49	119
Carraig Masters	Wicklow 3k	30	21	51
Open Sea	Dun Laoghaire Harbour Race	144	82	226
		3,346	1,846	5,192

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](#)

23. Appendix III Races in 2012

Club	Race	Men	Ladies	Total
Half Moon SC	Killiney - Bob Bushell Cup	106	55	161
Guinness SC	Malahide - Gibney Cups	84	40	124
Garda SC	Portmarnock	101	58	159
Templeogue SC	Seapoint	125	62	187
Meath Masters	Lough Leane	50	25	75
Glenalbyn SC	Sandycove	123	77	200
Wicklow SC	Mid Summer Race	74	48	122
Eastern Bay SC	Low Rock Malahide	104	60	164
Dublin	Killiney Beach	114	69	183
Corribh SC	Prom Swim Galway	43	26	69
Mullingar SC	Lough Owel	62	44	106
Garda SC	Seapoint - Special Olympics Charity Race	122	76	198
Open Sea Wexford Masters	Lough Dan National 5k and Leinster 10k	21	7	28
Sandycove SC St Vincent's WPSC	Curracloe - Tracey Lawlor Memorial Cup Dun Laoghaire to Blackrock - Eddie Herron	61	42	103
Guinness SC	High Rock	138	70	208
Aer Lingus SC	Malahide - International Orphan Aid	116	54	170
Guinness SC	Portmarnock Beach	104	70	174
Wicklow SC	Seapoint - Cyril Duff Memorial Cup	115	65	180
Phoenix SC	Wicklow - Wicklow Open	124	68	192
Half Moon SC	Wicklow - Wicklow Open	126	82	208
Open Sea	Killiney Beach - Phoenix Cup	101	72	173
Half Moon SC	Killiney - Siobhan McKenna Cup	127	55	182
Half Moon SC	Dublin City Liffey Swim	173	97	270
Wicklow SC	South Wall - Arthur Dunne Memorial	67	40	107
North Dublin SC	Bray Promenade - Kilmartin Cup	106	57	163
Open Sea	Wicklow Harbour -Healy O'Kane Cup	79	66	145
NAC Masters	Bull Wall - Plunkett McAllister Cup	80	40	120
	Dun Laoghaire Harbour Race	125	90	215
	River Liffey Docklands	100	65	165
		2,871	1,680	4,551

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](https://twitter.com/LeinsterOpenSea) #liffeyswim95

24. Appendix IV Press Cuttings

The Star*
Monday, 15 September 2014
Page: 24

Circulation: 64746
Area of Clip: 32900mm²
Page 1 of 1



THE HEAT IS ON...ALL WEEK



MAKING A SPLASH: The Liffey Swim and (below) Dragon Boat Regatta



Indian summer to continue

■ Senan HOGAN

THE current 'Indian Summer' is set to sizzle on until at least Friday and will delay the onset of autumn, experts are predicting.

Sun worshippers backed in the unseasonably hot September weather at the weekend as temperatures soared to almost 23 degrees in places on Saturday.

The good weather attracted crowds along the quays in Dublin as hundreds of swimmers took to the water for the annual Liffey Swim.

There was also a good turn-out at the Docklands for the colourful Dragon Boat Regatta.

The dry and warm conditions will continue this week however forecasters warned of fog patches on roads around the country.

Irish Weather Online expert Peter O'Donnell said: "The forecast is for a continuation of the dry and settled weather, with varying amounts of cloud."

Rain

Met Eireann predicted that temperatures will remain in the low 20s but a spokesman added: "There is the risk of some rain or drizzle along the southwest coast on Wednesday night but elsewhere it will be dry."

The summer of 2014 is already believed to have been warmer and drier than last year's season.

Met Eireann will release statistics at the end of the month which are expected to show we've also had one of the warmest Septembers in decades.

TODAY	TOMORROW	WEDNESDAY
16° - 19°C	16° - 19°C	16° - 20°C
Dry day with hazy sunshine	Patchy rain, some mist and fog	Warmer conditions; risk of some rain or drizzle

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](http://www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea)

Irish Times*
Monday, 15 September 2014
Page: 6

Circulation: 82059
Area of Clip: 80900mm²
Page 1 of 2



THE IRISH TIMES



Life imitates art as swimmers take to the Liffey



Kitty Holland

Jack B Yeats's painting of the Liffey swim has inspired many to take part

It was a journey from brushstrokes to breaststroke. Many of the 257 men and 111 women who took part in the 95th annual Liffey swim on Saturday were inspired by Jack B Yeats's painting of the same name.

David Wheelahan, originally from Melbourne, and now a member of Sandycove swimming club, said he had seen the painting years ago. Standing among hundreds of other men in Speedos as they waited to get down from the quays at Guinness brewery and on to the diving pontoon, he had wondered, when he moved to Dublin in 1998, whether the swim still existed. "I've done it almost every year since."

The men queued first and swam for an hour after they set off on the 2.2km swim.

Women queued for their swim from Rory O'More Bridge and finished at Loopline Bridge at the Custom House.

The swim takes place as the tide is coming in up the river.

Gus Cooney, who was managing the event at the weekend, told how the swim was started in 1920 by Dublin Corporation employee Bernard Fagan.

'Safe to swim'

"He wanted to prove to the citizens of Dublin that their river was safe to swim, so he and about 20 friends had the first race in July that year and it has grown and grown since. What better way to see your city than from the river, swimming past the Four Courts, the Ha'penny

Bridge? Swimming under O'Connell Bridge, it is 50 metres wide which is the length of an Olympic swimming pool. There are lights now, but it's dark under there."

In 1991, the women's race was added. The event is regarded as the highlight in a season of 26 open water races held during the summer.

To enter one must be a member of a swimming club and to have swum in at least four open water races during the year.

First man home was Ger Wilkes from Malahide, a member of north Dublin swimming club.

'Delighted but shattered'

"The hardest bit, thinking people are coming up behind you, thinking, 'am I doing enough?' I knew I was in the lead from about the Ha'penny Bridge. It was only a matter of hanging on then. O'Connell Bridge is like going through a big dark tunnel, but it's great. I put a lot of training in during the year, so I'm delighted, but shattered."

Rachel Lee, of Guinness swimming club and a paramedic with Dublin Fire Brigade, was greeted by cheers from many of her colleagues on duty by the quayside, as she came in first in the women's race.

"I can't believe it. I'm delighted," she said. The hardest mo-

ment for her, she said, was "finding the finish point at the end".

"I want to go home now and kiss my babies, twins, they're two and I wish they were here. Then there'll be a few drinks later."

Almost all completed the swim, although a number had to be taken from the water by the fire brigade water rescue.

Watch
Video of the
Liffey swim at
irishtimes.com

“What better way to see your city than from the river, swimming past the Four Courts ...”

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

[@LeinsterOpenSea #liffeyswim95](http://www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea)

Irish Independent Tabloid*
Monday, 15 September 2014
Page: 18

Circulation: 117361
Area of Clip: 21400mm²
Page 1 of 1



Irish Independent



Annual **Liffey swim** a splash hit for hundreds

Brian Byrne

AN incredible 368 people made the most of mild early autumn conditions as they took to Dublin's River Liffey for the 95th annual **Liffey Swim** on Saturday.

Malahide native Ger Wilkes proved fastest of the 257 men over the 2.2km course to win the coveted *Irish Independent* Cup.

And despite warm temperatures in and out of the water, he described swimming the course - which began at Watling Street Bridge near the Guinness Brewery and finished at Custom House Quay - as like "going through a big dark hole".

He said: "When I was going in there, I thought I was actually swimming backwards. The flow was really strong. And it's dark. It's like going through a big dark hole."

"The hardest bit is thinking people are going to come up behind you. But I knew I was in the lead from about the Ha'penny Bridge, so it was only a matter of hanging on then."

"I knew I had a chance. I went off really hard. I was catching a lot of people very early. I put a lot of training in throughout the year. This was my aim, to win this."

Meanwhile, Rachel Lee, a paramedic with Dublin Fire Brigade, was fastest out of 111 in the women's race and took home the Ladies Challenge Cup.

The historic race took in some of the capital's best known bridges, including the James Joyce Bridge, the Ha'penny Bridge, O'Connell Bridge and the new Rosie Hackett Bridge.

Both races finished at Loopline Bridge around 30 minutes after their respective

starts. Organised by Leinster Open Sea Committee and supported by Dublin City Council, the race was opened by Lord Mayor Christy Burke.

He said: "The **Liffey swim** is a wonderful part of the city's sporting and social history."

"I would like to congratulate the swimmers who have qualified to take part in the 95th **Liffey Swim**."

The swim is considered the highlight of 26 open water races during the summer months, of which competitors must complete at least four to qualify.



Rachel Lee, winner of the women's 95th Dublin **Liffey swim**, with her mother, Marian Lee, after the race. FERGAL PHILLIPS

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteropenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteropensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) #liffeyswim95

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Date 14 September 2014
Page 1



JASON CLARKE

Danika Sugrue, left, and Rachel Nevins hit the showers to rinse off after they both took part in the 95th annual Liffey Swim in Dublin yesterday.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) #liffeyswim95



Date 14 September 2014
Page 25



Family swim: Brian Murphy (centre) with his four sons Stephen, Colm, Martin and Aidan

They all went Liffey-dipping

THOUSANDS of spectators lined the banks of the river in Dublin yesterday to back competitors in the city's annual Liffey Swim. More than 360 brave qualifiers took to the water for the 95th year of the event watched by Lord Mayor Christy Burke. He said: "It's a wonderful part of the city's sporting and social history."



Winner's kiss: for Rachel Lee McGuinness from husband Tom

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) #liffeyswim95

Sunday Independent*
Sunday, 14 September 2014
Page: 22

Circulation: 229382
Area of Clip: 24700mm²
Page 1 of 1



Sunday Independent



AT-SWIM TWO STUDIES PAST AND PRESENT



ARTISTS' VIEWS: Different eras, different forms but the same beauty. Jack B. Yeats's **The Liffey Swim** is complemented by photographer Gerry Mooney's study of the swimmers passing the Four Courts yesterday.

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

[@LeinsterOpenSea](http://www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea) #liffeyswim95



IT'S PARENTS AGAINST KIDS AS 95TH LIFFEY SWIM IS SET TO MAKE A SPLASH

IN AT THE DEEP
END: Shane Drumm, Yvonne McCarthy, Rachel Nevins, Danika Sugrue, Tatiana Grosso and Caroline Brennan on North Wall Quay, to announce the 95th Liffey Swim

By Luke Byrne

IT'S father against son and mother against daughter in an exciting swimming race in the River Liffey this weekend.

Dublin City Council has announced details for the 95th swimming event to take place through the capital's river.

And as part of the event, nine parents have agreed to compete against nine of their children.

To give the parents a chance, a handicap system has been introduced, based on each swimmer's proficiency.

Announcing the event, Lord Mayor of **Dublin**, Christy Burke, said that the swim was one **Dublin's** oldest traditions.

"Each year it goes from strength to strength. This year, over 350 people will take part, including nine sets of parents who will compete against their children," he said.

He added that solo North Channel swimmer Sabrina Wiedmer from Switzerland and Lake Zurich Marathon swimmer and member of **Dublin Fire Brigade**, Rachel Lee, would also take be taking part.

This year's race will return to its traditional course beginning at the Rory O'Moore Bridge near the Guinness Brewery. It will then take competitors past famous **Dublin** landmarks such as the Four Courts and the Ha'penny Bridge and will finish at Custom House Quay.

Competitors of all ages, abilities and nationalities have signed up to take part, with teenagers pitting their strengths against 70-year-olds and club swimmers from all over the country competing against each other.

The men's race has been scheduled to start at 1.15pm while the women's race will begin an hour later. The winners of each category will be presented with the prestigious Liffey Cup on North Wall Quay at 4pm.

hnews@herald.ie

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsteorpenseacommittee@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea
[@LeinsterOpenSea](#) [#liffeyswim95](#)



Dive in and enjoy the **Liffey Swim**

On hand to launch the 95th Dublin City **Liffey Swim**, which takes place on Saturday, were Danika Sugrue, Gareth Quigley, Yvon McCarthy, Lucy Gaynor and Shane Drum PICTURE: JASON CLARKE

95th Dublin City Liffey Swim
Saturday 13 September

www.leinsteorpensea.ie
leinsterpenseacommittee@gmail.com

[@LeinsterOpenSea](http://www.facebook.com/leinsteorpensea) #liffeyswim95

20

SOUTHSIDE PEOPLE • 08 OCT 14

SPORT

To sponsor or advertise on this page call Maria on 01 8162902



■ Angus Potterton of Savills Ireland and David Bursley, President, of Old Wesley RFC are pictured at the announcement that Savills will be the club's main sponsor for the 2014/2015 season.



■ Joe Schmidt, Brian Grinsom and Jim Coffey are pictured at the announcement of SoftCo's sponsorship of St Mary's College RFC.



■ Mark Pallock Trust supporters and fitness fanatics Leinster Rugby's Sean O'Brien, Mark Pallock and Irish model Rosanna Davidson announce details of the Life Style Sports 'Run in the Dark Series' 2014 which takes places across the world on November 12 at 8pm. To register and for more information go to www.runinthedark.org. PHOTO LEON FARRELL/PHOTOCALL IRELAND



■ Pictured at the recent 95th Annual Liffey Swim, sponsored by Dublin City Council, are Brian Murphy and his four sons Aidan, Colum, Stephen and Martin, from Foxrock who all swim with Glenalbyn SC in Stillorgan.



■ Liz Keogh McCarthy from Ranelagh, who swims with the NAC Masters Swimming Club at the event.



■ Sharon Concarr from Clondalkin and Jackie O'Connor from Castleknock, who both swim with the NAC Masters Swimming Club at the Liffey Swim.



■ Yves Michelet from Ballsbridge at the 95th Annual Liffey Swim.