

Suffering for fun?




Manhattan Island Marathon Swim (August 2013)





WHEN THE GOING GETS
TOUGH
THE SPRINTERS GET OUT





"NOW IF YOU ARE GOING TO WIN ANY BATTLE YOU HAVE TO DO ONE THING. YOU HAVE TO MAKE THE MIND RUN THE BODY. NEVER LET THE BODY TELL THE MIND WHAT TO DO. THE BODY WILL ALWAYS GIVE UP. IT IS ALWAYS TIRED IN THE MORNING, NOON, AND NIGHT. BUT THE BODY IS NEVER TIRED IF THE MIND IS NOT TIRED."

- GEORGE S. PATTON



IF YOU CAN
dream it
YOU CAN
become it

The Edge (entrance hall)

“Energy and persistence conquer all things”

Benjamin Franklin

Leder (1990: 149)

“the opposition of rational mind and body may be a misreading, but one which is motivated by the lived body itself.”

www.marathonswimmers.org

Welcome to the **MSF**.

For those who aspire to swim the world's great bodies of water with just a swimsuit, cap, and goggles.



www.warwick.ac.uk/go/channelswimmer

Becoming a Channel Swimmer

Research and Data

Resources

Welcome to "Becoming a Channel swimmer"



My name is Karen Throsby and I am a sociology lecturer at the University of Warwick. This website is part of a two and half year ESRC-funded sociological research project, entitled "Becoming a Channel swimmer: identity and embodiment in an extreme sporting culture".

The research is about the experience of becoming (or trying to become) a Channel swimmer, drawing on my own experiences, as well as those of other swimmers, boat

pilots, coaches, family members, official observers, beach volunteers....basically, anyone involved in Channel swimming. As well as observing and training with swimming communities both in the UK and overseas, I am conducting interviews and studying a wide range of published and unpublished accounts, blogs and websites and media reporting.

Contact

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[The Long Swim](#) (my blog)

FOLLOW ME ON 

Tue 01 May '12

[New featured blog and video of the month](#)

Sat 14 Apr '12

[New resources added](#)

(auto)ethnography



Elaine Howley





Existential capital

“[...] comprises visceral pleasures, corporeal resources and a novel form of sociality...” Nettleton (2013: 209)





Nettleton (2013: 209)

“...the magic, memories, skills, frailties, dangers, pain and fun associated with the practice of fell running permeate the body...”