

To boldly go.....where no Master has gone before!

John Harrison (Godalming / Royal Navy), British Swimming's oldest Master, has moved up to the uncharted waters of the 95-99 age-group ("P") and there is no sign that he is losing his hunger for rewriting the record books.

Those who have followed John's progress over the last decade or so will know that he holds all the British Backstroke records for the 85-89 group, all records (LC and SC) except the Breaststroke for the 90-94 group and various European / World records.

He has clearly been relishing the prospect of "ageing-up" and already has made an impact in the first four months of 2009. The SE Region LC at Crawley saw him attack the short course records and he followed this up at the Isle of Wight "Heights" meet.

His record attempt on the 100 and 200 metres backstroke World record was the final event of the day at the IoW and it brought the entire pool crowd to its feet cheering and clapping. Some of John's earlier swims set times not previously attempted in his age group but John had to swim faster than a 95 year old American in this last race, to achieve a World record which he did in great style. The list of records bagged so far comprises:



John with IoW Meet Organiser Jenny Ball

	SER Long-course	Isle of Wight Masters Open
50m Freestyle	1:14.72 B/E	
100m Freestyle	2:44.63 B/E	2:43.76 B/E
200m Freestyle		5:55.45 B/E
50m Backstroke	1:12.29 B/E	1:13.45 B/E
100m Backstroke	2:42.01 B/E	2:57.20 B/E
200m Backstroke		6:18.51 B/E/W

We look forward to welcoming John to the Surrey Masters at Elmbridge and hope to see another record bagged there!