

This **Saturday**, **2 August**, the Channel will once again come alive with the splashes and spirit of the Jersey to France Relay Swim 2025, a test of true endurance with its heart firmly set on home.

Now in its fourth year in this exciting cross-Channel format, the challenge will see 16 relay teams from across the globe take on a 14-mile open water route from La Coupe Point, Jersey to Carteret, Normandy. Each team will swim in one-hour relay legs, supported by safety crews and boats, navigating tides, waves, and the sheer test of stamina, all to raise money for **Dementia Jersey**.

## A Global Line-Up, A Local Legacy

What began in 2015 as a charity swim around Jersey has evolved into an international sporting event, drawing teams from California, Germany, France, Guernsey, the UK, and even St. Ouens! This year's roster includes some big names in open water swimming, including **Adam Walker**, the first Briton to complete the Ocean 7 challenge, and **Nathalie Pohl**, a World Record holder in long-distance swimming.

Event founder Simon O'Donoghue reflected on the journey:

"What started back in 2015 as a casual idea between friends has become something far bigger than we ever imagined. I casually mentioned wanting to swim around Jersey to raise money for charity, and before I knew it, it was in the press. That first year sparked something – and now, ten years on, we're welcoming swimmers from around the globe to take on a world-class challenge for a deeply personal cause."

The challenge has raised more than **£50,000** to date, and this year's fundraising has already surpassed **£12,000**, helping support Dementia Jersey's vital work for islanders and their families.

## **A Community Effort**

This isn't just a sporting event, it's a celebration of resilience, connection, and compassion. From the welcoming smiles of Mayor Bruno and Harbourmaster Pierrick in France to local support from Kirsten Morel and Constable Deidre Mezbourian, the swim continues to build lasting cross-border friendships.

Dementia Jersey CEO Claudine Snappe summed it up perfectly:

"This event not only raises vital funds but also brings people together in a uniquely powerful and positive way."

With generous support from lead sponsors Dickinson Gleeson and Kroll, and sunny skies on the horizon, the 2025 challenge promises to be the most memorable yet.

How You Can Join the Action

Whether you're on the shoreline or cheering from afar, you can still be part of this inspiring event:

- Track the race live via the Race Nation app
- Donate to Dementia Jersey via <u>JustGiving</u>
- Follow the action and share your support on social media: @jerseyfrancechallenge
- Use the hashtag #jerseyfrancechallenge

Let's come together this weekend to support the swimmers, celebrate the journey, and make waves for a cause that truly matters.