

36 Hour Swim – Day 2

It was good to see the dawn, albeit a cloudy and dull one with a hint of rain but with two thirds of the challenge successfully completed it made up for grey start.

It is strange watching a town wake up - those early workers opening up facilities and cleaning up everywhere ready for a new day. This was an important day for the town – Carnival Day and very important for Dean and the club. It was great to get past the 24 hour mark and even better to get under the 10 hours and into single figures.

Unfortunately the weather was windy with sunshine and showers – more of them as the day went on. Morale was good with lots of visitors. The night shift had a couple of hours off to have a wash and clean up before getting back into the count down.



The next 'challenge' for the support team was to complete the final arrangements for getting Dean out at the end of the challenge. Not only had he not eaten properly for 36 hours but his body had been exposed to cold water and the pressure of the water. We had a plan to get Dean out maintaining a horizontal position, get him into dry clothes whilst still keeping him flat and monitoring his condition – all to be better safe than sorry.



Pictures show the effect of the water on Dean's hands and feet



The weather wasn't nearly so kind on Saturday. It really was quite miserable with wind and showers. As well as undertaking the challenge the Club had entered the Hastings Carnival so some members had to go along to our base at Hastings Motor Boat and Yacht Club and get the boat out and onto the road trailer ready for the procession. It is an important Public Relations event for us to enter each year so the town can see us as well as us supporting the Carnival organisers.

Those members in the Carnival were anxious to get back for the end of Dean's swim at 8pm. We had a team of experience lifeguards to lift Dean out in a horizontal position and we have to admit the plan worked perfectly. Dean was then wrapped in dry warm clothing and something to drink. We monitored his progress over the next hour which was good. He gradually sat up, keeping his legs up though.



After an hour and a half of monitoring and gradually sitting up, Dean's wife went to get their car and tentatively he got up – all went well and he went home for a good meal and sleep. The rest of the team drained the pool, stored it in a nearby store, packed away the gazebo, packed away all the rest of our gear and banners. 10pm no-one would have known we'd been there!!!

Again we'd like to thank everyone who came along and supported the challenge, everyone who sponsored the challenge. Special thanks to Adventure Golf, Rutherford Pools, HBC, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Services, B.G. Drains and Jewsons. Thanks to a brilliant team, without the team it wouldn't have succeeded. Thanks to you all.