

# Our Wonderful Fundraisers



## Stuart Combe...

planned what he called a Joggle Extravaganza which was to cycle from John O'Groats to Land's End. Almost 900 miles in the saddle is a great accomplishment and Stuart raised over £1,300 for I N UK. Well done Stuart.



# Stuar

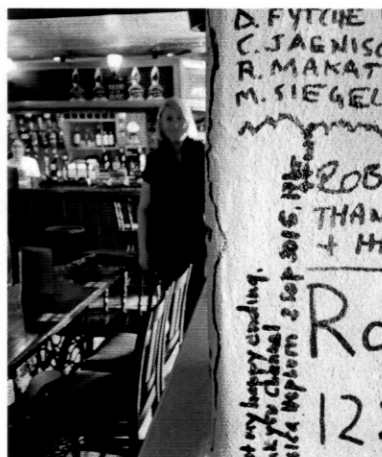


## I did it!

I told you it was going to be epic and it was.

I set off in darkness at 1am and the first couple of hours were fine until I started to be violently sick, probably as a result of nerves and the fumes from the support boat which I wasn't used to swimming alongside. This slowed me down considerably and as a result the tide took me far off course. Then in the middle part of the swim I had to make my way through thousands upon thousands of jellyfish which stung me all over. The official Channel swimming observer who was on board to ratify my swim, said that they were the worst she'd ever seen, but on the positive side they did make me speed up just to get away from them!

Then right at the end I got swept down the coast of France and it took me several hours to land and in spite of everything that had happened earlier, it was the most challenging part of the swim. I was physically exhausted and France looked tantalisingly close yet I just couldn't reach it, but eventually I did and when my feet touched the sand, it was the



most profound and incredible experience I've ever had. All I could murmur was 'I did it. I swam from England to France. I did it.' It took me 17 hours and 44 minutes, but I can now proudly say: "I am a Channel Swimmer."

Thank you for the hundreds of messages of support and congratulations I've received on Twitter, Facebook, text and email, and for helping me raise what is now nearly £15,000 for my two chosen charities. In the final gruelling hours this was what got me through.

I got home, I got warm and above all, I got my happy ending. **Jessica x**

You can read more about Jessica's challenge on her blog: <https://thepursuitofmotherhood.wordpress.com/> and donate on her JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/Jessica-Hepburn-INUK/>

# Jessica