

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE2552

McGill, Linda

(1945 - 2025)

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|-------------------|---|
| Born | 19451217, Sydney New South Wales Australia |
| Died | 20250730, Gold Coast Queensland Australia |
| Occupation | Commonwealth or Empire Games Gold Medalist, Swimmer |

Summary

Linda McGill was one of the Olympic stars banned by the amateur swimming authorities as punishment for alleged misbehaviour in 1964 at the Tokyo Olympic Games. Five months after being suspended, she became the first Australian to swim the English Channel. In 1967, she set a women's record for the swim of 9 hours 59 minutes and 57 seconds, a time that came very close to beating the men's record (9 hours and 35 minutes) as well. Three months later, she became the first person to swim across Port Phillip Bay in Victoria, Australia. She swam the twenty-five miles from Portarlington to Frankston in 13 hours.

Events

1967 - 1967

Broke the women's record for the English Channel Swim

1968 - 1968

First Australian to swim across Port Phillip Bay

1965 - 1965

First Australian to swim the English Channel

1962 - 1962

Swimming – 4 x 110y Medley Relay

Published resources

Edited Book

Australian Sport Through Time: The History of Sport in Australia, Cashman, Richard (Senior Consultant); Olds, Margaret and Etherington, Kate (Managing Editors), 1997

Site Exhibition

She's Game: Women Making Australian Sporting History, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2007,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/sg/sport-home.html>

Faith, Hope and Charity Australian Women and Imperial Honours: 1901-1989, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2003,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html>

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

Australian National Maritime Museum

[Linda McGill collection](#)

Author Details

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