



# Lifeboats Boxing Day Swim

The Boxing Day Swim in aid of the RNLI.



It was brilliant! Reasonable weather and a great crowd turned out (over 200) to cheer on the hardy bunch of 20 swimmers, many of them in fancy dress, like Steve Travis and his family, it was Steve and Emma that had the original idea for this swim. Most of the swimmers joined in to the spirit of the occasion by wearing fancy dress, and the fancy dress prize winner was Ann Pearsons. The spectators and swimmers began arriving at the King's Hard beach sandy point at about 11-30, and began consuming the tea coffee and mince pies, (and they were very nice). As the whole event was in aid of the RNLI our life boat "Dignity" turned up to keep an eye on the swimmers, and a number of the crew took part in the swim.

At around 12pm the crowd completed a countdown and our hardy bunch went charging into the water, some went in further than others in fact one man swam to the other side of Besom Fleet and looked most surprised to find that no one had followed him!

A small dog also jumped in but was disqualified for not wearing a fancy costume. On returning to the shore our swimmers were cheered on as they climbed up the shingle bank and headed for the changing tent and a well earned glass of mulled wine.



Well done everybody the whole event was well organized most enjoyable and most importantly it raised funds for the RNLI, £500 !!! I have no doubt that it will become an annual event, thanks to the efforts of Steve Travis his family and all of his crew plus the Mersea Island and District Lifeboat Guild.(report by Pat)  
(Pictures by Emma Travis, & Pat Richardson.)

