

Months of training culminated in a first ever triathlon for thirty-two novices lining up at 7.30am on Sunday morning for the 2026 Ana Leaf Try-a-Tri.

The weather turned up too; blue skies and wind-free. However, the swim was still choppy somehow, but Hayley showed no mercy and the 400m sea swim went ahead as planned. Every single participant finished the swim unaided within the cut-off time of 16 minutes. Bearing in mind that some could not swim 25m when the programme started in February, this is a truly remarkable achievement.

With a bucket full of shoes at the bottom of the slip because “my feet hurt” none were picked up and everybody made it back up the slip shoe-less. Novices going in; proper triathletes coming out!

The bike saw the usual change in positions but well done to Lauren who retained her lead, overtaken only by the “rocket on a bike” Dom, our eventual race winner. The highlight of the bike leg without a doubt was our tail bike Dan accompanying Luisa and Charlotte back into transition – gosh those ladies (and Dan) can talk!

The race finished with two laps up and down the breakwater. Spurred on by lots of support from spectators, everybody completed the run without any issue, with the fastest run split being posted by Rachel in a snappy 11min34sec.

The event attracts people of varying levels of fitness and physical ability and what matters is not where in the field you finish, but the progress you have made on your own journey to fitness and health. Every year the coaches and I hear some of your remarkable stories - we are humbled and privileged to be able to support you on your journey.

But as with every triathlon, there is always a winner. This year the win went to Dom, who crossed the line in a cracking time of 43 min 16 sec. The first lady home was Lauren— finishing second overall in a time of 44 minutes 47 seconds.

What always makes the try-a-tri special, is the large number of family and friends turning up to support. For many signing up, following the training programme, and completing the event is a big physical and mental challenge, and the sense of achievement when crossing the finish line is a lovely moment to share with family and friends. This year’s finish line was particularly poignant when all the competitors lined up to applaud the final competitors, Luisa and Charlotte, crossing the line – and yes, they were still talking!

Participating in the Try-a-Tri has become a family event and over the past ten years we have had a great number of family members taking part. This year was no exception with father and son David and Jake taking part together. We also now have our first set of twins having completed the event - Alice was first out of the water - with her twin sister Megan having won the event in 2024

The event is an opportunity for the Jersey Triathlon Club to support a local charity. In 2026, participants raised funds for The Grace Crocker Family Foundation, and a big thank you to our top fundraiser, Beverley who raised more than £800. Over the past ten years we have raised more than £50,000 for local charities.

A new initiative this year was to team up with Jersey Sport who supported us with their CT5K running and adult cycling sessions. Jersey Sport share our vision for a healthy, happy, and active community.

The event is only possible due to the large number of club members who are willing to give their time freely to run the event and to the amazing coaches who work on this programme – a big thank

you to you all. And of course, without the continued support from The Community Foundation this event would not be possible.

Good luck to all of you doing the Accuro on the 28th and we hope to see all of you at the ten-year anniversary event on 9 August.



Lots of support from family and friends



This year's winners Dom and Lauren



Our top fundraiser Beverley



The triumphant class of 2026



Father and son David and Jake