



- *SPATEX 2017*
- *ISPE Sponsor Board 2017*
- *Seminar Report and Awards*



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NOTICE TO ALL READERS

Articles and advice in the ISPE Magazine are for guidance only. Further professional advice should always be sought before acting upon, or refraining from acting upon, a course of action. Health & Safety is of paramount importance and the correct PPE (personal protective equipment) should always be utilised before undertaking any job.
If in doubt, ASK!

INDEX

| | |
|---|---------|
| Front Cover Picture and Editorial | 2 |
| SPATEX 2017 - the must-attend Industry event of the New Year! | 3 |
| The ISPE Programme of Workshops at SPATEX 2017 | 8 |
| ISPE Seminar News and Awards | 11 |
| Water Analysis - What Happens When Things Go Wrong | 14 |
| The Institute's 36 th AGM | 15 |
| The 2017 ISPE Sponsor Board | 16 & 17 |
| Inspirational Pools - in every country | 18 |
| Focus on Bramley Baths | 23 |
| Wilson's Meanderings | 26 |
| I'm the Longest | 28 |
| Company Profile - Flowman Leisure Ltd. | 29 |
| Company Celebration - Pools Plus (Tony & Co) | 30 |
| Situations Vacant Summary & Notices | 32 |



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Front Cover Picture

Indoor Domestic Infinity Edge Swimming Pool with a moveable Pool Floor within the Pool.

Lifting Floor - This stylish and impressive feature allows the client to make full use of the swimming pool surface area when the pool is not in use. At the touch of a screen the pool transforms into a useful area for a number of different uses, such as parties, dining, functions, recreation or sport.



The pool is easy to use and control. It can be set at any (water) depth at a touch of a screen, set at a shallow water depth young children can enjoy the pool safely, or lower the floor completely to its lowest level to enjoy the pool with its water level at its deepest.

The insulated concrete structure has been finished in a beautiful glass mosaic tile. The lifting floor has a porcelain tile laid on it to match the pool hall surround. Within the floor it has two sets of disappearing steps. In the Plantroom we have used a 'Heatstar' air handling unit connected to all the necessary ductwork, the pool hall supply air is discharged through linear grilles in the ceiling. The pool filtration consists of 'Tagelus' sand filters and 'Sta Rite' pumps, and the water is treated and controlled by a UV dosing system.

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Editorial

I won't start this editorial with a hearty 'Happy New Year' because, whilst of course I hope you all have a good one, by the time you read this, it will nearly be February and I'm one of those who feels all the salutations for the New Year should finish by about 12 noon on January 1st each year!

We have plenty to look forward to, though, for the rest of 2017. With the twenty-first anniversary of SPATEX in the coming days, there can be no better place to start the year. The ISPE are delighted to have been asked to put together a programme of Workshops to run alongside the SPATEX seminars throughout the three days. I would sincerely like to thank all the companies and speakers who make this possible, for the benefit of all the many visitors to the show. We feature extensive coverage of this extra special SPATEX in this issue starting on page 3.

The ISPE Magazine is published four times each year and for each issue I cajole, nag and plead with a number of our members and others for articles to include in the forthcoming issue. Sometimes, like busses, they all arrive at once, but, more often, work takes precedence, as we fully understand it should, and things don't arrive in time. All articles not included in this issue will be in the next one, closely following this one in early April.

Do visit the ISPE stand (A21) at SPATEX to find out about the new ISPE CPD Scheme, and don't forget to book in for the forthcoming ISPE Seminars. In the meantime, keep busy!

Ross Alcock - January 2017.

SPATEX 2017 - the must-attend Industry event of the New Year!

The clock is ticking and the countdown has begun for the biggest meeting of the water leisure Industry in the UK. When the 21st special edition of SPATEX 2017 opens its doors at Coventry's Ricoh Arena Tuesday January 31st to Thursday February 2nd, with its long-term partner ISPE in full attendance, it promises to be the biggest, boldest and best Show ever!

If you go to only one exhibition in 2017, make sure it's SPATEX 2017. Representing all sectors of the wet leisure Industry, commercial and domestic, there is something to interest everyone.

Firstly, it's the ideal hunting ground to source new products and innovations. New ways to save energy is a topic high on the agenda and there will be lots of new launches promising just that! Take advantage of special show discounts and offers. Displaying everything from wet and dry safety

flooring, new spas, saunas, water play features, pool enclosures to energy saving chemical control and heating and ventilation units, you can be sure to find what you are looking for. And, whether you're thinking of refurbishing an existing facility or installing a new one, free advice is plentiful – with all the experts in the Industry gathered under one roof, there is no better place to seek guidance on a specific project.

NEW Exhibitors

Alongside all the leading wet leisure suppliers and loyal followers of the Show, there is a host of new exhibitors to Coventry including Allseas Spas, Aqua Design & Leisure (formerly known as Catalina), Spa Tech Training, Almost Heaven Saunas, Safe Swim, Aquafeat, Haven Saunas, Gecko Alliance, Ockyz, Pool Design, Castillo Pools, Pool Up, Eco Finish, Gaffey, Intopool, Sorodist and Heypar and Villeroy & Boch.



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NEW products:

Here's a taster of some of the new products you will see showcased:

- **GMT Spas** - a new infinity edge bespoke spa and two round spas featuring part of Ezarri's new Zen range. MD Darren Tillyer says: "We are looking forward to exhibiting at SPATEX 2017 and building on this year's Show which proved a great success for us in cementing relationships and establishing a higher than expected number of new contacts and new orders. As a result we believe this has contributed to our record third quarter, the last quarter is looking strong, too."
- **Brio Group** - is offering 15 per cent off all pool plant training, risk assessments or audits booked at SPATEX or within 2 weeks of the show.
- **Almost Heaven Saunas** - stunning new barrel sauna.
- **Certikin International** - the new-look Cantabria - the flagship of the CalderaSpas Utopia Series with its super high-tech cabinet and unique elegant shell design, it claims to set itself apart from all other hot tubs.
- **Suntrap Systems** - the Spa Ultra lift. Providing easy access into spas, hot tubs and swimspas, and designed for both commercial and domestic use, the lift is fitted with a 24V rechargeable battery and operated via a hand-held control, enabling it to rotate through 360 degrees.
- **Aquafeat** - its new polypropylene modular structure with integrated steel framework. Used for the construction of reinforced concrete pools (residential or commercial), inground and above ground pools.
- **Golden Coast** - newly named exclusive distributor for the Waterway Spa Steps, they will be showcasing Waterway's non-slip spa steps that are one of the world's most robust. Plus, the new Ultralift cover lifter with universal appeal.
- **Plastica** - the Pleatco Advanced spa filters - the first premium performance filter cartridge specifically optimized for spas. It provides better flow, tougher dirt holding capacity and greater repeat performance.
- **Wellis** - a stunning new range of spas (StarLine) and the new four person Volcano stainless steel spa which is resistant to UV-rays, frost and thermal stresses.
- **Waxman Group** - The Anti-Slip Collection is a capsule range of modern porcelain tiles suitable for application around pool side and outdoor areas.
- **Aqua Spa Supplies** - new Aqua Hand Rail, Towel Rail,

Aqua Lift 3 and Spa Marvel water treatment.

- **Aqua Warehouse Group** - Covana Oasis cover and an automated gazebo plus the beautiful Covana Evolution hot tub cover.
- **Passion Spas** - the relaunched seven person Ecstatic spa includes a Romantic Wave seat that can be shared by two people, an extra massage pump and 150 therapeutic massage jets.

17 NEW Workshops

ISPE has, over the years, imparted a massive amount of knowledge and provided free education and training that has come to be recognised throughout the Industry as being a very valuable resource.

For 2017, the ISPE will once again be presenting its own, much-loved brand of technical workshops – with 22 different sessions running throughout the three days of the Show, 17 of them feature brand NEW topics. All attendees of the workshops receive a certificate of attendance and valuable CPD points.

The full ISPE programme is on pages 8 & 9 of this issue.

NEW seminars

In addition to the ISPE workshops, SPATEX will once again be offering a parallel programme of seminars on topics such as the most successful ways of marketing your company, the latest health and safety legislation

and the stand-out product innovations for 2017.

This year we've gone for diversity: **Wasps Rugby Club Deputy Chairman**, Nick Eastwood is giving a talk on Tuesday January 31st (14.00 – 14.30) in Seminar Arena 2 on Increasing Your Profitability – maximising leisure facilities and building a brand: the Wasps story.

Following much interest in the national press, board member of the British Association of Natural Swimming Pools, Tim Evans, has been invited to give an introductory talk on **swimming ponds and natural swimming pools** on Wednesday February 1st (12.30-13.30) in Seminar Arena 2.

NEW contacts

2017 is a landmark year for SPATEX as we are celebrating 21 years of success, so we are

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pulling out all the stops for a very special event. On Tuesday evening BISHTA and SPATA will be hosting in the Ricoh Arena a gala dinner for the British Pool & Hot Tub Awards (T: 01264 356210/1 to book tickets). When the Exhibition closes for the day on the Wednesday at 5pm, all visitors and exhibitors are welcome in the Ricoh Arena's Clubhouse (conveniently situated just seconds away from the Ericsson Exhibition Hall) for a themed networking event including free drinks, nibbles, music and a lot of fun. With networking events, and of course the Ricoh Arena's G casino (the UK's largest), there is plenty to justify a night away. For some excellent accommodation deals go to www.spatex.co.uk for hotels in the vicinity.

Visitor registration is **FREE** and simple, go to www.spatex.co.uk (Please print off your PDF badge for speedy entrance to the Ericsson Hall.)

SPATEX 2017 - Tuesday 31st January to Thursday 2nd February - the Ericsson Exhibition Hall, Ricoh Arena, Coventry CV6 6GE. Over 2,000 free car parking spaces and just off the M6 motorway.

To book stand space please contact the SPATEX team: helen@spatex.co.uk or michele@spatex.co.uk
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PROGRAMME OF WORKSHOPS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Organised by the ISPE on behalf of SPATEX Ltd.

With seventeen new sessions, there will be no better place, for anyone in the pool and spa trade, than to be at SPATEX 2017. We are extremely grateful to all the speakers and their companies and hope that this 21st anniversary, FREE-to-enter programme of workshops will be well-received by all those attending SPATEX 2017. All in Technical Arena 1, near to the ISPE stand (A21).

ERICSSON EXHIBITION HALL, RICOH ARENA, COVENTRY

Tuesday 31st January - Thursday 2nd February 2017

Sessions shaded yellow will be of particular interest to those working in the commercial sector.

| Ref. | Subject Presentations | Tue. 31 st Jan. | Wed. 1 st Feb. | Thur. 2 nd Feb. |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. NEW | 'HSG 282 - THE CONTROL OF LEGIONELLA AND OTHER INFECTIOUS AGENTS IN SPA POOL SYSTEMS' This new guidance, published on 20 Jan 2017, will be required reading for everyone involved in spa pools and hot tubs. Howard Gosling FISPE (20 minute session.) | 10.00- 10.20 | | |
| 2. | COMMERCIAL SPA OPERATIONS A look at the basics from the spa operator's perspective. Mike Shuff MISPE (20 minute session.) | 10.30- 10.50 | | |
| 3. | LED TECHNOLOGY Multicolour lighting for all pools. Andy James MISPE (20 minute session) | 11.00- 11.20 | | |
| 4. NEW | FRESH AIR VERSUS HEAT PUMP DEHUMIDIFIERS IN SWIMMING POOLS A comparison of the pool hall environment, energy use and maintenance costs of these competing modes of dehumidification. Graham Kneale FISPE (30 minute session) | 11.30- 12.00 | | |
| 5. NEW | ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESS (AOP) Review into advanced oxidation process solutions available for swimming pools. Keith Glass (30 minute session) | 12.15- 12.45 | | |
| 6. NEW | OH NO! WHAT DO I DO WHEN THINGS GO WRONG? How do I safely add chemicals if my controller packs up? What levels should we close pools and spas at? Why do we need to floc' all of the time? Why do I need to test every two hours in our spa when we have an automatic controller? Why do I need to revalidate my pool & spa plant qualification? Allen Wilson FISPE (45 minute session.) | 1.00- 1.45 | | |
| 7. NEW | SPECIFYING TILING FOR SWIMMING POOLS & OTHER WET LEISURE AREAS Best practice and guidance on tiling in wet leisure areas, considering the impact of tiles, backgrounds, water chemistry and finished environments on the waterproofing, adhesive and grout specification. Andrew Reid (30 minute session.) | 2.00- 2.30 | | |
| 8. NEW | SALT ELECTROLYSIS AND HYDROLYSIS – WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE? An explanation of how private pools can operate with a free chlorine residual as low as 0.2mg/l with the appropriate filtration system. Jimmy Lamb TnISPE(Cert.) (30 minute session.) | 2.45- 3.15 | | |
| 9. | BACK TO BASICS - FILTRATION A step by step guide explaining how to correctly size the filter and pump for domestic swimming pools. Including reference to different filter media. Chris Carr FISPE (45 minute session.) | 3.30- 4.15 | | |

| Ref. | Subject Presentations | Tue. 31 st Jan. | Wed. 1 st Feb. | Thur. 2 nd Feb. |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 10. NEW | LEGIONNAIRES' AND CRYPTOSPORIDIUM Should I be worried and what I need to do to avoid either. Allen Wilson FISPE (30 minute session.) | | 10.15- 10.45 | |
| 11. NEW | SWIMMING POOL COVERS An Engineer's Guide. Will Dando FISPE (20 minute session.) | | 11.00- 11.20 | |
| 12. NEW | PHOSPHATES, SULPHATES AND CHLORIDES IN POOLS. A look at the causes and effects. Mike Shuff MISPE (30 minute session.) | | 11.30- 12.00 | |
| 13. NEW | THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN IT GOES WRONG What happens when you pursue a Civil Case, to include the Applicable Law, proving Negligence, evidence required and examples of successful cases. Simon O'Loughlin (30 minute session.) | | 12.30- 1.00 | |
| 14. NEW | PRACTICALITIES OF MANAGING HEALTH & SAFETY IN POOL PLANT ROOMS Dealing with the principles of risk assessment and how to manage health & safety within pool plant rooms. Robert Byrne (30 minute session.) | | 1.15- 1.45 | |
| 15. NEW | TURBIDITY: What is it and why should it concern me? Colin Day FISPE (30 minute session.) | | 2.00- 2.30 | |
| 16. | HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE FOR THE POOL & SPA OPERATOR An annual update on legislation and cases over the past 12 months and details of any forthcoming changes. Colin Jenkinson MISPE (20 minute session) | | 2.45- 3.05 | |
| 17. NEW | THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT FOR REGULAR MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTING What we must do to comply with guidance. What must we test for? What are TVCs, coliforms and pseudomonas? What do we do in the event of a failure? When should we close and how to avoid closure? Allen Wilson FISPE (30 minute session.) | | 3.30- 4.00 | |

| Ref. | Subject Presentations | Tue. 31 st Jan. | Wed. 1 st Feb. | Thur. 2 nd Feb. |
|------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 18. NEW | GREEN POOL? Common causes and what to do if it all goes wrong. John Key and Keith Pescott MISPE (30 minute session) | | | 10.00- 10.30 |
| 19. NEW | PVC LINERS – An Engineer's Guide Will Dando FISPE (20 minute session.) | | | 11.00- 11.20 |
| 20. | SWIMMING POOL HEAT PUMP INSTALLATION AND BASIC MAINTENANCE POINTS Best practice installation guide and basic maintenance. Adrian Broom (20 minute session.) | | | 12.15- 12.35 |
| 21. NEW | HOW TO DISMANTLE AND REBUILD A POOL PUMP A live demonstration, with commentary, reviewing all components of a pool pump and the correct way to dismantle and service all parts. Chris Carr FISPE and Phil Barlow MISPE (45 minute session.) | | | 1.00- 1.45 |
| 22. | SPECIFYING TILING FOR SWIMMING POOLS & OTHER WET LEISURE AREAS (Repeat of session no. 7.) Best practice and guidance on tiling in wet leisure areas, considering the impact of tiles, backgrounds, water chemistry and finished environments on the waterproofing, adhesive and grout specification. Andrew Reid (30 minute session.) | | | 2.00- 2.30 |

Please see www.spatex.co.uk for full details of the SPATEX seminar programme (in Technical Arena 2) running throughout the three days of SPATEX. In addition to speaker profiles, there is all you need to know about the show, the exhibitors and the social/networking opportunities.

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ISPE Seminar News and Awards

Back in October 2016, the ISPE presented its 113th One-Day Seminar at the popular Watermill Hotel at Bourne End near Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Just over forty delegates attended a very interesting and informative day with presentations covering 'The New Euro Standards for Domestic Swimming Pools', from Ian Betts, FISPE, 'Keeping your Floats and Woggles Clean' from Allen Wilson, FISPE, and ISPE President John Cheek, FISPE, covered two presentations, 'Protective Maintenance of Plant and Equipment' and, later in the day, 'CDM 2015 - Construction (Design and Maintenance) Regulations'.

Chris Carr also gave an update on the forthcoming **ISPE CPD scheme** and outlined some initial ideas. Chris said that the most important thing was for ISPE members and others to be able to take advantage of training opportunities and record their CPD activity on the CPD Progress Log, (which will be supplied, together with a folder to keep all attendance certificates together) and he talked about the 'Industry-supported FREE training days and half-days' which were currently being presented by Certikin International and CPC Ltd., full details of which may be found on the ISPE website www.ispe.co.uk. All these free-to-attend sessions offer four or eight CPD points. It is hoped that more and more

companies will get on board with this and offer some free training on a variety of subjects, and these will be publicised by the ISPE.

Following the short AGM (see page 15 for details) John Cheek turned to the 2016 ISPE Awards.

Around fifty students sat the Institute's Level 1 Examinations in March 2016 and John presented certificates to the newly qualified Technicians, and congratulated them on passing the examinations, although, of the 30 or so who passed and could have collected their certificates, only five of them were able to be at the seminar.

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*Josh Markham, Mark Wicks
John Cheek, Troy Godfrey,
Mark Lewis and Martin Pelling*

The Gartside Cup, for the Student of the Year, is presented to the student who achieved the highest overall marks in the examinations, and the winner this year is Troy Godfrey from IJ Cannings.



*Troy Godfrey with the Gartside Cup
for Student of the Year*

The Peter Littlehales Cup is presented from time to time for an excellent Seminar presentation. John said that this year, the award was being given in acknowledgement of all the presentations someone had given over the last few years, speaking at virtually every ISPE seminar, where he

kept many an audience entertained and informed. This person continued to deliver presentations even when he was walking on crutches last year following an injury he sustained in an accident. John announced that the winner would be speaking again later in the day, too, and said he was delighted to present the Peter Littlehales Cup for 2016 to Allen Wilson.



*John Cheek presents Allen Wilson
with the Peter Littlehales Cup*

The ISPE 114th One-Day Seminar

Around forty ISPE members and their colleagues attended our second seminar at the excellent Walton Park Hotel in Clevedon, North Somerset, in early December.

A Summary of the 'Water Testing - what to do if it all goes wrong' presentation by Colin Day, FISPE and Mike Shuff, MISPE appears in this issue and a summary of the 'Leak Detection' presentation by Steve Burke, MISPE and the 'Legal Implication of Pathogens in Pools' presentation by Clare Pearson

from Irwin Mitchell LLP will appear in the next issue in early April. In addition, John Cheek presented a reprise of his 'CDM Regulations 2015' presentation from the 113th Seminar and Chris Carr looked at 'Aspects of Filtration'.

Regular ISPE speaker, award winner and Past-President Allen Wilson, FISPE delivered an excellent presentation on 'Silicosis and Asbestosis: The Invisible Death Sentences' but had another duty to perform on the day too.

There was a surprise presentation of a new award, kindly donated by Allen Wilson of Studies in Work, 'Wilson's Plant Room Award'. This annual award will be given to an ISPE member (any category) who is involved in the best installation of a plant

room and submits design and layout photos. The inaugural winner was Josh Markham, TnISPE(Cert.) from Penguin Swimming Pools. The 2017/18 nominations will be considered in time for the ISPE awards in October 2017, and may be submitted at any time (contact ross@ispe.co.uk).



Allen Wilson with Josh Markham

Innovative, professional pool dosing systems manufactured in the UK

An advertisement for Gaffey technical services Ltd. It features a blue banner at the top with the text 'Innovative, professional pool dosing systems manufactured in the UK'. Below the banner is a photograph of a Pellet+Pro motive pool chlorinator system. The system is a white cabinet with a blue door and a control panel. The control panel has a yellow label with the text 'IMPORTANT This equipment should only be operated by trained personnel. Refer to Operation Manual before use. Always wear protective clothing & goggles when handling chemicals.' The Gaffey logo is visible on the control panel. To the right of the photograph is the Gaffey logo, which consists of a blue circle with a white stylized 'G' inside. Below the logo is the text 'GAFFEY technical services Ltd'. At the bottom of the advertisement are the website addresses 'hyprolyser.com', 'desoclenz.co.uk', and 'gaffey.co.uk'. The Hyprolyser logo is also visible on the control panel of the chlorinator system.

Water Analysis – What Happens When Things Go Wrong

A summary of the presentation given by Colin Day, FISPE and Mike Shuff, MISPE at the Institute's 114th One-Day Seminar at the Walton Park Hotel, Clevedon in December 2016.

What could possibly go wrong in a swimming pool?

Just cast your mind back to last Summer and the Olympic Diving Pool. We all remember the vivid green colour the pool turned and were equally amazed that it was apparently safe to use. But what caused the problem? FINA concluded that the water tanks ran out of chemicals used in the chemical process which lead to the pH level of the water being outside the usual range. So a simple error can lead to a major problem visible to all looking on.

What else can go wrong? If the water quality is poor there can be a number of issues with regard to pool safety and plant care including:

- Poor disinfection can lead to microbiology problems such as cryptosporidium, pseudomonas, coliforms, etc., which in turn can lead to health problems for bathers. Who would be responsible if this happened – you the operator! The number of infections being reported is on the increase and this also means that the number of actions being taken against the operator is also on the

increase. We all know the saying “where there’s blame, there’s a claim!”

- If the water balance isn't correct then the water can become scale-forming or corrosive. This could lead to problems within the plant room or the structure of the pool.

So, if problems do occur, what would be expected of you regarding the testing of pool water? As a minimum, you must have an operating procedure outlining your testing procedures and the target chemical levels you should be aiming for. This must at least cover chlorine and pH levels and ideally, should include total alkalinity, calcium hardness and Total Dissolved Solids. The tests should be carried out regularly as per the operating procedure and the results logged. The testing regime should be backed up by an appropriate risk assessment and a ‘traffic light system’ offering the operator an overview and advice on how to interpret the readings. This could also have details on readings acceptable to keep the pool open and more importantly on when readings are of concern and the pool should be closed.

To avoid issues in the first place, have a good water testing procedure both for chemical and microbiological analysis. Microbiological testing should be taken monthly (weekly for hydrotherapy

pools), and carried out by an external UKAS accredited laboratory. The standard tests are for Total Viable Count (TVC), coliform organisms and Pseudomonas aeruginosa, but there are a wide range of other tests that can be carried out at a cost.

Chemical analysis can be carried out on site by the pool operator and to make sure testing is correct people should be aware as to how important the testing is and be properly trained. To avoid mishaps in testing there are a few golden rules that should be followed:

- Follow the instructions
- Make sure everything is clean

The Institute's 36th Annual General Meeting.

The 36th Annual General Meeting of the Institute took place on Tuesday 18th October, 2016 at 2.15pm at the Watermill Hotel, near Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, as part of the 113th ISPE One-Day Seminar.

ISPE President, John Cheek, FISPE, opened the meeting and read a list of apologies for absence.

The first item on the Agenda was: *To receive and consider the Accounts for the year ended 30th June, 2016, together with the report of the Directors and Auditors thereon.*

This motion was proposed by Ron Stempfer, FISPE, seconded by Howard Gosling, FISPE, and agreed unanimously.

The second item on the Agenda was: *To elect two members to the Council of Management.*

Malcolm Sharp and Ben Studdy resigned in accordance with Article 47 and, being eligible, offered themselves for re-election in accordance with Article 48. No other nominations were received.

This motion was proposed by Ian Betts, FISPE, seconded by John Scott, FISPE and agreed unanimously.

The third item on the Agenda was: *To appoint Lanham and Company as Auditors to the Company and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.*

This motion was proposed by Allen Wilson, FISPE, seconded by John Scott, FISPE, and agreed unanimously.

This concluded the official business of the Annual General Meeting and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 2.20 p.m.

- Use a suitable testing location
- Sample from the pool itself
- Make sure the reagents and accessories are compatible
- Never handle the tablets
- Make sure the operating procedure is relevant

And finally, taking the reading is only the first part - remember the 3R's **READ, RECORD, REACT.**

So can things go wrong in a pool? We have seen that they can but with a little care and the correct procedures, mishaps can be avoided so we don't all end up with green pools.



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Our new Secretary of State for International Trade, Liam Fox, was clearly out of touch when he spoke on industry matters at a recent CBI meeting: he diagnosed that Britain's companies had grown "too fat and too lazy" to be effective exporters. Also, he was out of date when he added that UK business bosses preferred "playing golf on a Friday afternoon", rather than seeking export deals!

More than fifty years ago, the swimming pool trade was well ahead in the export handicap game. At that time, Robert Rutherford had laid out a 9-hole golf course beside his offices and manufacturing site, right alongside the Battle of Hastings approach onto the 1066 battlefield. Not that the Rutherford Group MD was ever seen swinging a golf club or digging for Saxon or Norman artefacts during a working week: he was too busy developing and promoting domestic and export trade. His private golf course actually provided a useful landing ground for visiting helicopters and international buyers, as well as a pleasant space for a lunchtime stroll.

Business definitely thrived, such that by the mid 1970s the export department could boast there were Rutherford pool systems and supplies in nearly every country of the world thereby winning The Queen's Award for Export... please

note Dr Fox, "Weekend golf is that perfect business activity for healthy export development."

It's also interesting to note that the Rutherford brothers launched their contract landscaping company against the odds in 1926, just when the General Strike froze Britain's economic climate. With digging tools in the sidecar, their motorcycle combination carried them through the Great Depression out to Sussex properties to install garden features, ponds and pools ... and later during WWII, by lorry and bulldozer, up to East Anglia to build airfields. That early pool company golf course, laid out a decade or so after the war on the Battle worksite, was perfect proof that '*You've never had it so good*' – an upswing idea spread about by PM Harold Macmillan's PR.

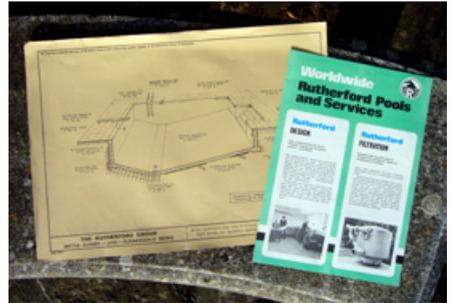
Worldwide Trading

Britain as an international trading nation in the 20th century, exported mainly to Commonwealth and other countries around the world before joining the EU in the 1970s. By the beginning of the 21st century, Europe had become our main trading partner. Today, exports to the rest of the world, by value, have inched ahead again at just over 50% of the total of British exports.

In trading terms, Europe and North America are leading

swimming pool markets with well developed home grown activities. There's ample export scope for quality products, specialist designs and reliable trading: and, the rest of the world is just as eager to buy British, provided terms and conditions are set fair for trading, and the exporter knows his special market. The Brexit £ exchange rate is a great advantage for British exporters today. Take advantage of every new opportunity.

Getting a quality trade message across, in person and in print has always been a key factor when building worldwide relationships. So Robert Rutherford installed a litho-print press in the 1970s, hired an experienced printer and spread the word worldwide.



Worldwide pools

He devised a unique construction product – the A3 *Self Build Dossier* of ‘everything a builder needs to know’ when building a concrete swimming pool involving local contractors and engineers, and using Rutherford pool equipment.

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kinds of building situations requires a capable drawing office, plus in our trade, an extensive knowledge of pool construction, equipment installation AND particularly technical drawing with descriptive information.

His first foray into Europe began from a holiday villa in Spain, where he and his new Spanish agent installed a sprinkling of private individual pools and a village-sized condominium swimming pool serving the other villas directly to their doors, in one all-embracing scheme (see pics 2a/b or read Chapters 4 & 8 *ISPE HANDBOOK*).



2b *El Capistrano, Malaga, Costa del Sol.*



2a *El Capistrano village, early days*

It was important to learn more about overseas swimming pool trade association standards, the extent of ancient and modern pool & spa reference books and technical publications, as well as to compare leaflets that companies were offering to their potential clients. A search endeavour provided the basis for a knowledge collection published partly in the *ISPE HANDBOOK Design & Planning of Swimming Pools*.

The key point is that when a client or an overseas agent is offered a well illustrated and clearly



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presented detailed project, success rate climbs. 'Knowledge is power' we're told. You can't begin a career, or for that matter a pool deal, unless you know everything there is to know about it.

Having begun the pool research bug, it stimulated my freelance writing activities to encourage customers and contractors to appreciate what it is that water in the garden, indoors, or elsewhere, really means for health and leisure and work.

Pool & Spa Knowledge-base

Jamie Adams of Golden Coast with his article *Invaluable Knowledge* in October 2016 *ISPE Magazine* (27/3) maintained, in bold text, '**Knowledge has a value that you can take to the bank**'. And he added, 'The more knowledge and skill you have ... it becomes more valuable to your customers, and therefore more profitable to you.' In that same month, Jamie also wrote an '*Opinion*' piece for *SPN* saying, despite suffering and recovering from a damaging cycling accident four years ago, 'I'm optimistic' and 'my glass is half full ... nothing is impossible', as shown by the grit and determination of those athletes at the Paralympics.

Bankable knowledge is intangible until its value is assessed. The *ISPE HANDBOOK* began such a reference and valuation task that then went on to develop into a huge accumulation of 19th/20th century pool & spa research

materials ready for digestion and classification. Having now sorted innumerable catalogues, cuttings, papers, books, photos, etc. into *HANDBOOK* chapter numbered boxes (see picture overleaf), I have an extensive knowledge-base that includes:

16 HANDBOOK Pool & Spa chapters in 20 Storage Boxes, weighing 250 kgs;

182 Reference and Study Books on the subjects of pools, spas and baths, packed in Storage Case Wallets (a booklist pdf can be emailed from John, just email: johnadawes@yahoo.co.uk);

642 Research Papers of industry standards, market reports, seminar and technical papers, stored in Box Files;

Storage Box Photographic Collections held in Wallet Folders.

An individual would take several years to work through and absorb the entire content; a university or a company would set-up a *Pool & Spa Knowledge-base* library for student and staff reference purposes.

With Brexit inspiring greater interest in the wider world, efforts to export will definitely grow. But first, the student or the exporter needs to know all there is to know about the product, the market and potential agents in various countries. What value then would you place on this unique *Knowledge-base* collection?

Our home market is just as sophisticated as the US and EU pool & spa trade areas, and our



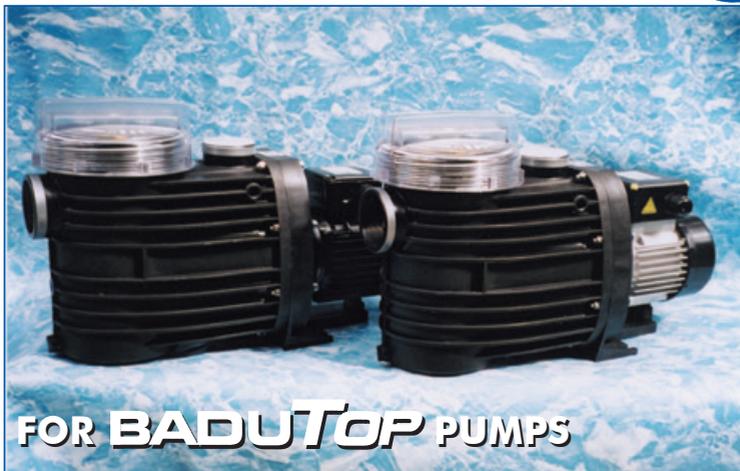
Pool & Spa Knowledge-Base Storage Box 2.

products and know-how if well presented, are widely appreciated. The way to get worldwide business flourishing is to join an overseas trade mission, or an enterprising export group, to discover the best opportunities, to locate active trading partners and explore how markets really tick.

As an independent trading nation, 'the world is our oyster' – providing, that is, we know how to deal with, say, 'Chinese Conpoy', which we need to appreciate is a dried, pungent scallop, that when first experiencing Chinese cuisine we might think is a suspicious oyster. It's best really to know beforehand what you're going to deal with, so get researching.

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Focus on Bramley Baths

We are grateful to ISPE student member Courtney Harrison who supplied the following article and pictures.

Bramley Baths is believed to be formerly known as the Globe Foundry.

The Globe Foundry closed in 1880, and was unoccupied for over twenty years until Leeds City Council bought the site, which is famously known today as Bramley Baths. Designed by architect J. Lane Fox, the doors to the Baths opened on 17th October 1904 and served the community of Leeds.



An early picture of Bramley Baths

This beautiful Grade II listed building is often referred to as a Victorian Baths, but is, in fact, Edwardian. This era of architecture is clearly evident around the baths, even to this date. The colours in the stained glass windows, primrose yellows, leaf greens, lilac and blue, which are pastel colours, bold and bright.

Steel work around the balcony, box office, the garden

and above an external archway provide an explosion of decorative detail. The original oak entrance doors and box office are beautifully crafted and still have the original stained glass windows. Glazed bricks cover the walls and archways and still remain in their place where they were first laid, over a 100 years ago.

The original globe foundry's smoke stack chimney is still a present feature of Bramley Baths and can be seen throughout Bramley.



The famous chimney

The exterior of the baths is constructed from sandstone with gable ends either side of the pool hall, housing replicas of stained glass windows. The façade is certainly a wow factor; the Leeds coat of arms and the famous two owls are perfectly appointed on this magnificent building.

Bramley Baths was not only a place for people to socialise, the baths also satisfied public health requirements with their slipper

baths, Russian steam bath, clothes washing facilities and a 25 yard pool equipped with three level diving boards, and changing cubicles all the way around the pool side with a balcony situated above them.



Balcony above changing rooms

Until the late 1930s when water filtration systems were introduced, the pool was emptied every two weeks, filled with fresh water with bleach added, and steam was injected under pressure to heat the water. As the water quality deteriorated over the days, a swim would be a lot cheaper before the pool was emptied and the same water cycle procedure was carried out again. During the winter months the pool was emptied, as swimming was considered a summer pastime. Alternately, the pool was drained and a dance floor was constructed over the top of the pool and became a dance hall for the community.

In 1988 Bramley Baths was closed down for refurbishment and reopened in 1992. Gone are the slipper baths, which were replaced

with a fully equipped fitness suite. The Russian bath still remains, but has undergone a makeover, with a changing and seating area added. The three level diving boards have been removed due to diving regulations. But not all was lost within the pool hall. The cubicles around the pool side have remained but have been modernised. The original balcony and the steel structure with the glass skylight still remain, allowing natural light to flood in and illuminate the pool hall; as the sun rises in the morning and sets in the evening, the sun cascades down onto the red bricks and dances on top of the reflection of the stained glass windows projected onto the water. This sight sets a perfect scene of tranquillity.

Another change was made during the refurbishment; the pool's original circulation system - a scum channel system which was replaced with a skimmer system - is still in place today. During the refurbishment the entire pool filtration system was replaced. The chemical dosing system and pumps have also been replaced, unlike the three medium rate sand filters, which are still in good working order to this day.

In June 2015 the decision was made to renew the current chemical dosing system and the treatment chemical: calcium hypochlorite. Previously, the chemical dosing system would cause several problems – erratic dosing, insufficient dosing and

other mechanical issues. This resulted in hand dosing chemicals into the pool and several pool closures. The chemical dosing system was not the only issue, the cost of calcium hypochlorite was expensive. The pool was and is still running at operational maximum bather loads. Because of this, the pool demanded more chlorine and therefore increased running costs. The old chemical dosing unit was replaced with the 'Hyprolyser' electrochlorination system, supplied by Gaffey, and salt is used to create sodium hypochlorite. The 'Hyprolyser' and the use of salt has made the plant room a low hazard and low risk zone and the cost of salt is far less expensive than calcium hypochlorite.

Dosing for the pH was also changed; hand dosing was the original method for pH dosing, using sodium bisulphate. The hazards and risks were reduced massively when swapping over to CO₂, which is now all dosed automatically. Coagulant dosing was also installed, enhancing the process of filtration.

Recently the three centrifugal pumps, which were over 24 years old, have been replaced with three Waterco 'Hydrostar' 700/3 PH, running on two pumps and alternately swapping them over every week, working away blissfully in sync with one another.

Bramley Baths has served the community for over 100 years. Threatened with closure due to

Government cuts, on 1st January 2013 Bramley Baths became a social enterprise. Since then the baths has gone from strength to strength and another chapter of Bramley Baths began.



Bramley Baths - open for business

Bramley Baths is more than just a swimming pool. We are blessed with being able to have so much autonomy, we have managed to deliver swim-along cinemas, underwater discos, dance performances, film projects and paranormal investigations.

Bramley Baths is more than just a beautiful building - within her walls memories are made, stories are told and every day the surviving future for the baths is constructed by the community of Leeds and those who dedicate their time and have the upmost respect and pride for what can only be described as a successful social enterprise.

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Wilson's Meanderings (observed from a Mercedes)

I know the time has now come for me to retire but there is a perverse 'bucket list' that appears to be preventing it happening. I am fortunate in having Steve Burke MISPE waiting and ready to take the lecturing reins, who has the attributes of being both young and knowledgeable. Sometimes, however he is so busy that I still have to pick up the urgent jobs. The 'can you do it next week?' jobs.

This however gives me the opportunity to strike an item off my list. Back in 2005, in a fit of madness I procured three Tommy Hilfiger shirts (only \$120.00 for the three) from the shop of the same name in Las Vegas. I am still endeavouring to wear out these shirts although I have of late noticed the collars and cuffs are beginning to fray.

So once more I am meandering around the arteries and byroads of the UK. I also have jobs in the New Year in Poland and Pune, India, two places that I have always cherished a wish to visit. My peripatetic wanderings around the

UK is mollified by the fact that I recently changed my car; Hyundai to Mercedes, manual to automatic, so driving is no longer a chore and infinitely more pleasurable. This again gives me the opportunity to peruse the contents of roadside lay-byes; urine-stained mattresses, pizza-impregnated settees and diverse other objet d'art. These articles left by people, lacking intelligence and/or common sense, but unfortunately without any real prospect of retribution falling upon them.

Boris Johnson, a man whose own hair is monument to law and disorder, managed with a single utterance '*hooked on grief*' to alienate himself from the citizens of Liverpool, a city I recently had the great delight to visit, whilst working at the new Alder Hay hospital. I myself have no problem with people leaving small bouquets of flowers on the pavement following someone losing their life in a road traffic accident. I do however take exception to those, unable to afford flowers, who instead, artistically



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decorate the surrounding pavements with empty crisp packets, Twix wrappers, cigarette cartons, McDonald's containers and diverse unfinished carry out meals. At least these people provide a nutritious diet for scavenging seagulls keeping them infinitely regular, allowing them to crap on my car with the pin-point accuracy of Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Often due to my out-of-date sat nav, I end up hopelessly lost, often on recently constructed housing estates of three story buildings, now that builders have discovered it is cheaper to build upward rather than outwards, giving them the saving of a smaller land footprint. Here the identically garbed occupants all appear to favour similar garden ornamentation: numerous wheelie bins of various autumnal shades. So into Lidl's to get essential provisions for the day where I end up queuing behind an old crone, resplendent in a Ford Fiesta coloured coat with matching hearing aid who proceeds to entertain or incense the growing throng of people waiting to be served whilst she delves through a voluminous handbag searching for an elusive twenty pence off voucher, that expired back in 2011.

I stayed that night at a hotel just north of Manchester that was owned or managed by someone new to the United Kingdom, and also possibly to any form of humour. He was about five feet tall (150mm) and of the same width and was the type of person that I like to stand next to at functions as he made me look tall, slim and

handsome or as Meat Loaf said *'two out of three ain't bad'*.

I do realise that I am supposed to put something beneficial in this magazine, so once I got in my hotel room, I inhaled and holding my breath, went into the bathroom and turned on the shower on its hottest setting, left the bathroom, closed the door and exhaled. This flushing of the shower would hopefully (as I told them on a BBC interview last week), purge any stagnant water that may contain legionella bacteria.

That night, at the hotel, I had an exorbitantly priced meal that I would have willingly have paid more for just to have some of the bizarre looking ingredients removed from my plate, some of which had all the succulence of a



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rubber dog bone. I know this because I have been on numerous rugby tours. I can now approximate, that thanks to staying in so many hotels over the years, I have sufficient bottles of shampoo, conditioner, skin lotion, shoe shines and sewing kits to last me for the rest of my life and beyond. Oh, and suitcase-sized flat-screen televisions as well.

So in retrospect I apologise because this article does not contribute to the knowledge of pools and spas that we all in our industry need and if you have read this far, you should subtract one CPD point from your accumulative tally.

A further apology is for the reason this article was ghost written. Ghost writing is far more

common than you think. This article, bearing my signature, was in reality written by Bill Bryson. Well it keeps him off the streets for a while anyway.

All being well, I will see you all soon on the ISPE stand at SPATEX 2017. Please come and say hello. Alternatively in the lecture theatre on the following dates and times:

31-Jan-2017 13:00 - 13:45

Subject: **OH NO! WHAT DO I DO WHEN THINGS GO WRONG?**

01-Feb-2017 10:15 - 10:45

Subject: **LEGIONNAIRES' AND CRYPTOSPORIDIUM**

01-Feb-2017 15:30 - 16:00

Subject: **THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT FOR REGULAR MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTING**

Allen J Wilson FISPE, Tech IOSH

I'm the Longest

In the last issue (Oct. 2016) in response to an esteemed Fellow's request, we asked ISPE members to let us know who had been in the pool trade the longest (and is still working in the trade). We said we might try and find a prize for the winner who submits a short description by email (ross@ispe.co.uk) with a brief outline of their career in the pool trade.

I have been delighted with the response and feel there could be more to come. Therefore **we will announce the winner in the next issue** and in the meantime, let me hear from you. Use the heading "I'm the Longest" in the subject line and email ross@ispe.co.uk giving brief details of your pool career history.

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2016 has been a challenging, but successful year for our company. Our success was shared with our local Edinburgh football club, Hibernian FC who picked up the Scottish Cup for the first time since 1902 and whose hydro pool we started servicing and maintaining at the start of the football season. I don't claim any magic connection, but...

We had detected a slight lull in training numbers over the past few years, which may be attributed to the old adage of marketing and training being the main casualties during an economic recession. However, we are noticing an increase in enquiries for our 3-Day certificated courses and bespoke in-house training this year, and have been covering the length and breadth of Scotland with new clients, in addition to our long standing ones. Each October we provide a Revalidation for the 3-day Pool Plant Technician certificate, which we have formatted into a seminar with workshops in order to create added value and interest. This annual seminar features guest speakers from the industry and 2016 saw presentations from Lovibond Tintometer, DR Kuntze Instruments and Dryden Aqua. We also had one of our engineers provide a demonstration - in the manner of the inimitable Chuckle Brothers at the ISPE Workshops at the annual SPATEX in

Brighton/Coventry – of dismantling and discussing a large selection of different types of chemical injectors. We feel our PASOQ (Pool And Spa Operators Qualifications) courses have evolved successfully and expanded over the years and are strongly established as the qualification of choice for Plant Operator training in Scotland. There is no doubt in our minds that our tie-in and endorsement from ISPE has helped considerably.

2017 looks to be a year that will not be without its challenges, what with Brexit and the weakening of sterling against the major currencies. Inevitably, prices of goods will rise, but Flowman's engineering side will meet those challenges successfully by adhering to the Three Qs: the principles of Quality Goods, Quality Service & Quality Workmanship. We wish everyone in the industry a prosperous 2017 in the hope that the Three Qs will serve you well also.

Dave Lowe, MISPE and
John Mannion, MISPE
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Free Publicity....

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Company Celebration - Pools Plus (Tony & Co)

Back in 1981, my parents Tony and Christine Canueto started a landscaping business named Tony & Co along the A4 on the New Bath Road near Reading on the site which is now a housing estate behind the Wee Waif. My father, who was self-taught in the field of landscape design, together with my mother, who provided the business know-how and people skills, garnered between them a great reputation locally for their quality workmanship and beautiful final projects.

From these humble roots they were approached by Ian Simpson of 'Kennedys' garden centre (now Wyevale) to potentially 'do something' with a derelict patch on their site. The plot was truly derelict with abandoned timber buildings, wild uncultivated gardens and disused crumbling swimming pools – my parents had a vision. They undertook the tenancy of the site and set about the restoration and remodelling of the neglected plot creating something beautiful which complemented what is known as the floral mile and became a show stopper for passing traffic. Dad had had hands-on experience building swimming pools, and with the swimming pool on site at Kennedys, which he masterfully restored, they decided to expand their business and

became Pools Plus (Tony & Co), opening a retail outlet selling swimming pool chemicals, accessories and equipment together with offering a swimming pool installation and refurbishment service which complemented the landscaping company already established. Mum stocked the shop without spending a penny by securing a sale or return deal with a leading industry supplier and she still remembers her first ever customer, Mr Adams, who purchased a floating chemical dispenser for £8. The workforce grew as the database grew and customers became familiar friends, shopping at Pools Plus (Tony & Co) year in, year out, the bulk of the business being drummed up by simple word of mouth locally.



*The Pools Plus Tony & co site at
Hare Hatch, Berkshire*

The seed had been firmly planted and Pools Plus (Tony & Co) became a well-established and trusted local company serving the

surrounding community and priding itself on its one-to-one approach to customer service and care, not shunning the ever-growing demand for selling on-line but maintaining its ethic of providing a truly unique and personal approach to the direction of the business and unwavering commitment to quality service and care on all levels.

Pools Plus (Tony & Co) is an all-encompassing family business with mum, dad, aunties, cousins, partners and myself all having been a part of its journey, not forgetting our additional team members who are comfortably seated within the Pools Plus (Tony & Co) family circle and have been the branches of this family tree with whom the company wouldn't be what it is today.



The team players going poco loco celebrating the company's' 35th anniversary, from left to right Tony, Francesca, Damian, Malcolm, Ali & Christine.

One of the most endearing things I hear people say when they visit us for the first time is 'I remember walking/driving past with my parents when I was a child

seeing the pools, gardens and water features and thought one day I might shop there and now here I am' – Pools Plus (Tony & Co) has been as much a part of the local community's history as it has mine.

I am proud of what my parents have accomplished here over 35 years and together with the Pools Plus (Tony & Co) family look forward to continuing to serve our existing clients and the future generations of swimming pool owners in Berkshire.

We have all been delighted to receive congratulatory letters, emails and acknowledgment of our 35th anniversary achievement from local residents and celebrities Teresa May and Debbie McGee as well as from the grandson, Prince Charles of one of our most elite past clients and a chap we've been in touch with over the years, Richard Branson.

Francesca Marie Canueto,
TnISPE(Cert).

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Situations Vacant - Summary

For full details of the positions summarised below and for the latest vacancies in the pool and spa industry, please see the Situations Vacant section of the ISPE website (www.ispe.co.uk), telephone the office (01603 499959) or email ross@ispe.co.uk and we will forward the full advert to you. *Please note, this is a free service to ISPE Members and their companies. Please let us know if a vacancy has been filled.*

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NOTICES

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL ISPE STUDENTS

The 2017 ISPE Student Exams will be held on Monday 27th March, 2017, at the Watermill Hotel, Bourne End, Near Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, from 1.30pm until about 5.00pm.

ALL paid-up students will receive a letter with booking form in mid-February. Anyone wishing to sit the exams in 2017 **must respond to that letter** and return the booking form (either with payment, or requesting an invoice to be emailed by ticking the appropriate box). If we do not receive the booking form, exam places will not be reserved. If you have not received your exam letter by Monday 20th February contact us immediately. Those re-sitting subjects will also need to respond to the letter in February. Those students not wishing to sit the exams in 2017 may ignore the letter.

ISPE LOGO USE - I must remind all ISPE members that the **ISPE logo MAY NOT be used** under any circumstances. Recently there have been a number of infringements. If you need advice for advert/webpage wording etc., please ask.

NEXT ISSUE - The next issue of the ISPE Magazine will be sent out in April. All copy for articles and new adverts is required before the **end of February**, please. We will be outlining details of the ISPE CPD Scheme, to be launched at SPATEX 2017, and will feature more Seminar reports, news, updates and profiles. Email ross@ispe.co.uk with your news, articles and pictures.

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