

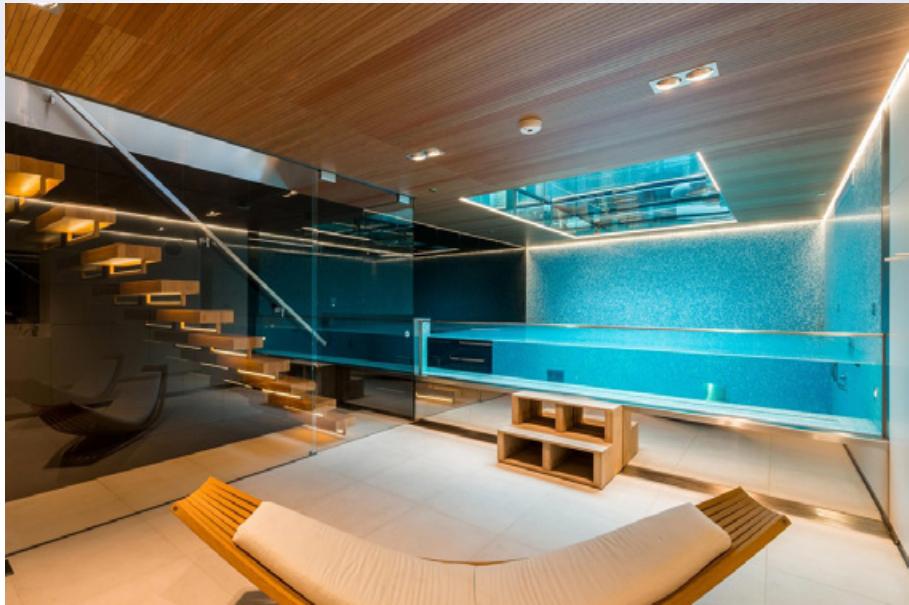


THE INSTITUTE OF
SWIMMING POOL ENGINEERS

MAGAZINE

April 2019

Vol. 30 No. 1



- *ISPE Revision Seminar Report*
- *ISPE Filtration Workshop Report*
- *SPATEX 2019 Success*



For Jon and Trevor, no job is too big or too small.

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INDEX

Front Cover Picture	2
Editorial	3
SPATEX 2019 went down a storm!	4
Product Profile - OC-1 The future of swimming pool filtration	6
2018 ISPE Awards	11
ISPE Back-to-Basics/Revision Day	13
New Members & Students	15
Wilson's Words of Wisdom	16
Model Answer	19
Presidential Success at the ISPE Filtration Workshop	20
Site Lining - The Future of Liner Pools	26
Tales from the Other End of the Bar	29
Situations Vacant and Last Words	32

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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.
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Front Cover Picture

This striking pool in a basement of a mews house in Britton Street, London is only small, 4.6m long by 4.3m wide and 1m water depth but was a very complex pool to design and build.



The obvious feature is the see-through wall at the front, but along with the counter-current swim unit and air track in a bench seat this pool is more than just visually appealing.



This award-winning project (Residential Indoor Pool of The Year and Outstanding Swimming Pool Design, UK Pool & Spa Awards 2017) was completed in 2015 and was part of a complete extension to the rear and basement of an existing house which included

a new, open plan kitchen and living area, the swimming pool, a sauna, cinema and wine cellar, which was designed by the London-based architects Spaced Out. Another of the features to the house is a large glass panel in the floor of the kitchen directly over the swimming pool below.

The pool itself was constructed using sprayed concrete and, to guarantee against any leaking was finished with a fully watertight render system before being tiled with a blue blend of mosaics.

The plant room was 10m away in a slim soundproofed cupboard alongside the cinema which required all of the pipework to be run in the stud walls between the pool and the plant room. The plant room equipment had to be fitted flush to the wall and stacked vertically as opposed to spaced out across a floor. The design work required to achieve a practical installation was lengthy and detailed. The work of the pipe fitters to actually install everything as designed whilst working in unfavourable conditions was a tremendous effort.

The swimming pool is a stunning addition to the house and provides a stunning visual backdrop to the socialising of the owners.

**Buckingham Swimming Pools Ltd
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*Thanks to Richard Troman, MISPE,
for providing this article
at very short notice.*

Editorial

During SPATEX 2019, one morning, the temperature in my car was -5°C. Two weeks later and in Norwich it was 19°C. I started looking at garden furniture and thought about giving the mower a kick. Now, a week further on and we have lashing rain, 50 mph winds, and more promises of snow covering much of the Country for up to a month! By the time you read this you'll know if that proved to be correct, or not.

Luckily, the weather did not affect the ISPE Filtration workshop (full report on page 20) or the ISPE Back-to-Basics/Revision Seminar (report on page 13) and a number of delegates at both events reported how informative and useful these sessions were. Do register your interest for the next ones.

We're now coming up to the last Seminar for the 2018/19 Winter/Spring season and will be looking towards the Autumn when it all starts again. Do let us have your suggestions for seminar presentations and if you have not attended one before, give it a try, they really are rather good!

If you fancy a new start to your career, see the situations vacant summaries on page 32 and the full listings on the ISPE website (www.ispe.co.uk).

Keep all your company, product and other news stories coming and if you have a pool picture suitable for the front cover, please let us know (it's free publicity!). In the meantime, I hope you all have a successful start to the traditional 'season'. Keep busy!

Ross Alcock - March 2019.

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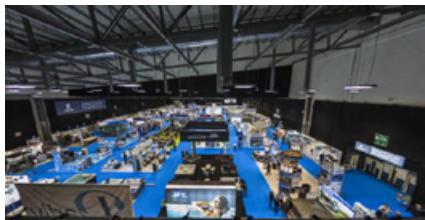
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SPATEX 2019 went down a storm!

In spite of the alarming media weather warnings, not to travel in the UK, issued on the eve of SPATEX, the wet leisure Industry's annual Show went off smoothly and was rewarded with an excellent attendance.

And what a show it was! A hundred and twenty-five companies participated in exhibiting at the UK's only dedicated water leisure Show, held at Coventry's Ricoh Arena at the tail end of January, including 31 companies making their Ricoh debut.



Every aspect of wet leisure, both domestic and commercial, was covered – from the obvious swimming pools, saunas, spas and steam rooms to the less obvious, chemicals, heating and ventilation equipment, enclosures and much more! It was a feast for the eyes with six display swimming pools, 57 spas and hot tubs, five swimspas, two enclosures, nine saunas plus gazebos and steam rooms – it was the highest number of displays in the Show's 23-year history.

Such is its standing in the wet leisure and construction industry calendar, SPATEX was rewarded with a record first day, with visitor numbers 5 per cent up year on year. Delighted Exhibition

Organiser, Michele Bridle reports: "Over the Show's three days we recorded very respectable visitor numbers, which aligned very much with those of 2017. However, it's not the quantity but the quality that is important and 2019 very much ticked the quality box."

The Show was brimming with an air of optimism and positivity. Almost without exception, exhibitors reported a steady flow of high-quality visitors throughout the three-day event. The stands were busy and the aisles were thronged with delegates doing business.

Mark Osman of Heatstar says: "The setup was the smoothest we have had so far and the support from Michele and her team was efficient and professional as always. Planning now starts for 2020, which is Heatstar's 40th anniversary."

Neil Murray of Certikin says: "It's been a really successful Show and we are really pleased with the flow of good quality enquiries. I am looking forward to SPATEX continuing to grow."

Not just a unique showcase, the double seminar and Workshop programme once again proved a massive success with high attendance figures. A whole gamut of subjects was covered including a fascinating talk given by Rob Summerson of FaulknerBrown Architects on the development of The Wave - a high octane leisure destination, currently under construction in Coventry city centre. The compact site boundary has led

the design team to redefine the water park typology, raising the feature pools 11m above street level to the first floor, opening up views of the city's rooftops.

General Secretary of ISPE, Ross Alcock, says: "The ISPE Workshop programme was, once again, very busy over the three days. 2019 introduced some new speakers and participating companies for the ISPE workshops, and there were 22 sessions with 18 new titles, covering topics of interest across the pool and spa trade, both domestic and commercial. 2019 saw the re-introduction of the Mega-Demos and the team from Lovibond Tintometer attracted a good audience on the Tuesday and Thursday looking at all aspects of water testing and troubleshooting.



The return of the Mega-Demo!

"On the ISPE Stand we were pleased to see a good number of ISPE members, old and new, particularly on the first day, and handed out lots of information packs and ISPE magazines to prospective new members and students. The Institute celebrated its 40th anniversary in December 2018 and the TV slide show on our stand, of over 600 photos from the Institute's activities over the last 40

years provided a great talking point, particularly when some of the industry's most well-known individuals of today are seen in old black and white photos from over thirty years ago!"



The Show is also well known for being the industry's best annual networking event and this year was no exception with SPATEX hosting a very well-attended oriental themed event on the Wednesday evening with fancy-dress headgear, free drinks, canapes and music.

It's all over for this year but make sure you don't miss the 24th edition when SPATEX 2020, returns Tuesday 28th to Thursday 30th January at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry CV6 6GE.

If your company would like to exhibit, book your stand space NOW and catch the EARLY BUY RATE (available until May 17th).

Please contact:

helen@spatex.co.uk or

michele@spatex.co.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 1264 358558.

ISPE Workshops at SPATEX 2020

If you are with an exhibiting company and would like to present one of the ISPE workshops at SPATEX 2020 please contact ross@ispe.co.uk with your ideas.

Product Profile - OC-1 The future of swimming pool filtration

(Based on a sponsored ISPE Seminar presentation in October 2018)

On an unrelated topic..... Do you think in ten years from now, more new cars will be diesel / petrol or hybrid / electric?

The answer is hybrid / electric and even now you can start to see the shift with 3.9% growth in the UK last year for these, against a drop of 20% in diesel cars. This doesn't mean diesel and petrol cars are obsolete or no longer have a role, it's just that more people are choosing to adopt new technology that uses less of the world's precious resources to take you from A to B.

In the same vein, Certikin introduced the OC-1 filtration media to the market in 2016. We all know traditional media like sand and glass work, however OC-1 can do the same filtration work whilst using less water and electricity, saving money and reducing our impact on the environment.

Key to understanding and getting the most benefit from OC-1 is that it works in a different way to sand and glass. Those medias work by entrapment, debris gets trapped between the grains of media. With OC-1, filtration is achieved by settlement. The open nature of OC-1 means that water will have to travel further through the media bed and this allows the kinetic energy of the debris to dissipate as it passes through and settle in an area of lower flow / pressure. Think of an oxbow bend in a river, the water on the outside of the bend travels quicker than the water on the inside of the bend which travels slower and allows the debris to settle on the inside of the bend, which accentuates the bend over time.

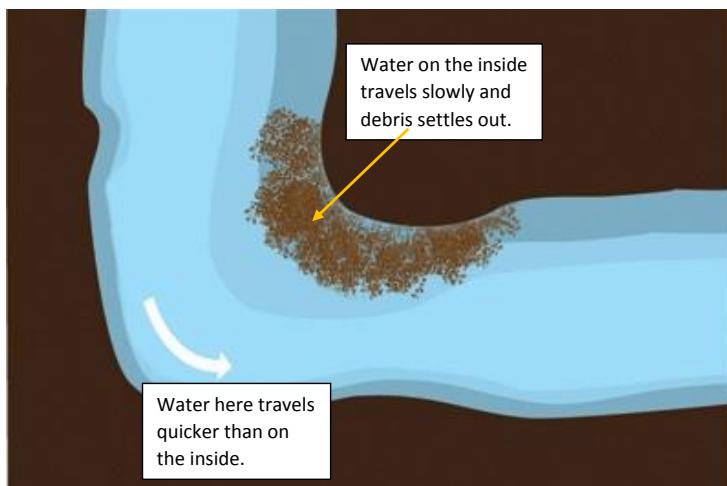
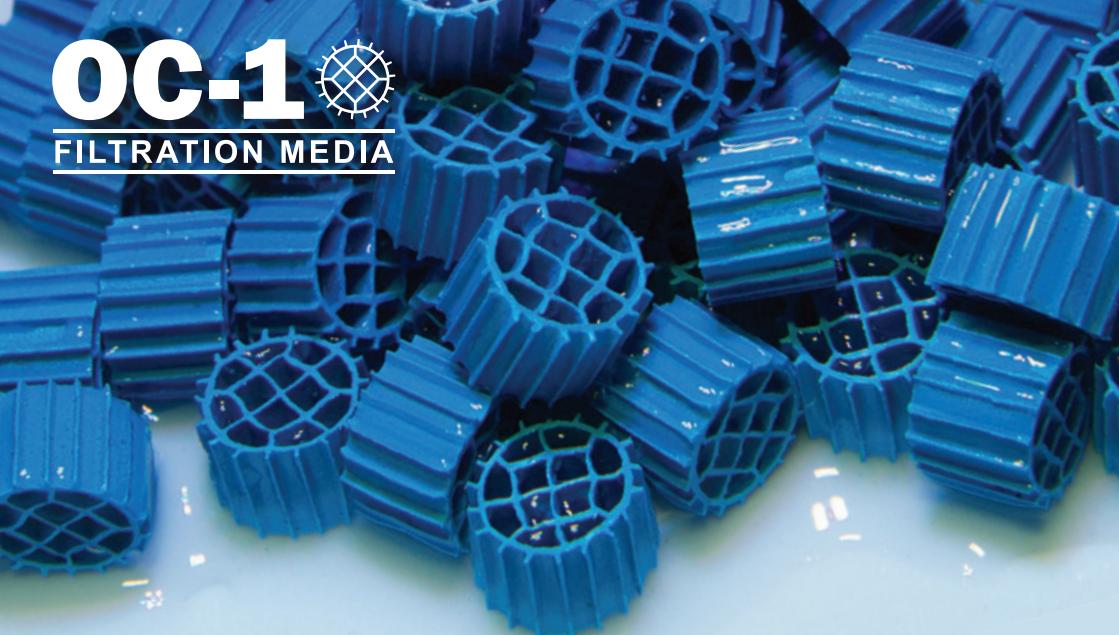


Fig 1 Oxbow bend in river

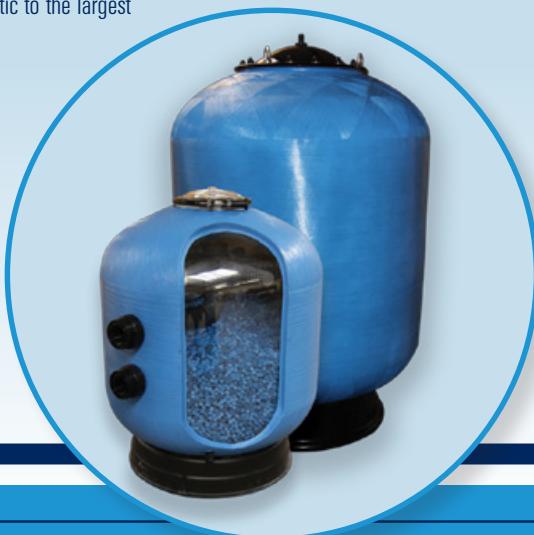


The obvious choice for your next filter installation

For new installations or replacements, the OC-1 filter is the obvious choice. Supplied complete with the OC-1 media it is specially designed to work in perfect harmony with OC-1 and compliment the amazing advantages OC-1 can provide. The OC-1 filter range covers all applications from small domestic to the largest commercial installations.

Benefits of using OC-1 media:

- Outperforms traditional filter media
- Increased debris retention
- Decreased head loss
- Independently tested by IFTS
- Suitable for all applications
- Potential energy savings
- Lightweight and easy to transport
- Manufactured in Britain
- Low maintenance and recyclable



The open nature of OC-1 also contributes to its ability to save water and energy. In a filter bed using sand or glass, there is approx. 5% free area for water to pass through and the debris to collect. Consequently, when using these medias, the pressure is quick to rise and flow to decrease when the filters have collected relatively small amounts of debris. In contrast, OC-1 is approx. 80% free area and can collect many times the amount of debris before backwashing is required when compared with other medias. Backwashing can be done less frequently without affecting the flow and pressure through the system. Also, as the debris has only "settled" in the filter bed, instead of being trapped, it takes less water and energy to remove the debris during backwash and rinse.

This free area means that the water can pass through the OC-1 media easily, so there is less head loss through the filtration bed offering a potential flow increase of approx. 20%, in most filtration systems. With this increase in flow the pumps could be turned down by 20% (when using an inverter or variable speed pump) and using the pump affinity laws this could save almost 50% of electrical consumption and cost whilst maintaining the same flow. Alternatively, a smaller pump could be used to achieve the same flow as through a traditional media.

The free-flowing nature of OC-1 means that you need a different approach to managing the water flow through the media bed. When retrofitting OC-1 into a standard sand filter, great care must be taken to ensure the water is spread evenly across the whole media bed. The smaller the amount of the filter bed the water uses, the faster the velocity of the water and the less filtration will take place. The diagram below shows the importance of ensuring that the water uses the whole of the filtration bed and not just the centre.

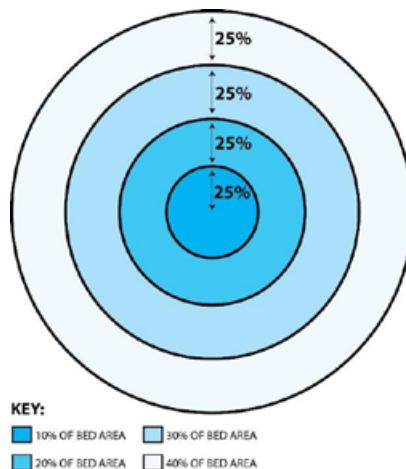


Fig 2 Importance of using whole filtration bed.

For our purpose-built OC-1 filters, Certikin have developed OC-1 laterals with a different profile for the water to pass through. This ensures the water

must use the whole of the lateral to enter and exit the filter, passing through the whole of the filter bed. This slows down the water flowing through the filter media and ensures all the filtration bed is in use. OC-1 collects debris throughout the filter bed and not just on the surface as with the traditional medias.



Fig 3 OC-1 lateral

Our dedicated OC-1 filters have these laterals fitted top and bottom in a side mount filter, this ensures a good distribution of water throughout the filter bed. The laterals can be retrofitted to standard filters or Certikin can advise on adapting existing laterals to change the water flow / distribution.

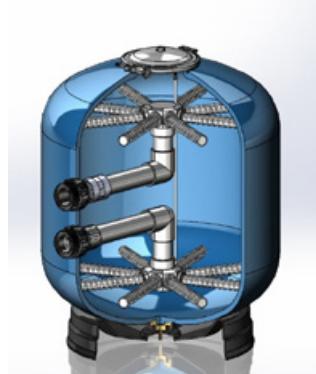


Fig 4 Side mount OC-1 filter.

Another advantage of OC-1 is its lightweight construction, weighing a fraction of the same volume of sand, filters can be pre-loaded with OC-1 saving freight costs and time and effort on site. As a British designed and manufactured product, we are exporting container loads all over the world. It's particularly popular in areas where environmental considerations are paramount.

In the last 2 years OC-1 has been installed in spas, residential and commercial pools; it can replace traditional media in many other applications. Below is a project we were involved with in Australia (Willoughby Municipal Pool) and it shows how the advantages of OC-1 can be utilised in two different ways.

Main Pool

In this pool, the potential increase in flow was not used and instead the pumps were turned down resulting in electrical savings.

Status	Sand Media	OC-1 Media	Comments
Operational flow	Same	Same	Turnover unchanged
Pump speed	50Hz	42Hz	Saving approx. 70,000kW (\$14,000 AUS)
Backwash volume	1,400,000 litres per year	360,000 litres per year	Saving over 1,000,000 litres of treated / heated water per year

Fig 5 Main Pool data

Spa Pool

With the spa pool, the increased flow was used to add a further 18 turnovers per day. The bathers mentioned that the water felt better, without knowing that any work had been done on the filtration system.

Status	Sand Media	OC-1 Media	Comments
Operational flow	51m ³ /hr	64m ³ /hr	Increase flow by 20%
Backwash frequency	Once per week	Once per month	Backwashing frequency reduced
Backwash volume	4,500 litres	2,300 litres	Saves over 200,000 litres per year
Temperature loss over backwash	15.5°C (28°F)	2.2°C (4°F)	Temp loss reduced per backwash limiting downtime

Fig 6 Spa pool data

OC-1 has been independently tested by IFTS, passing EN 16713 -1, they also confirmed it removes 10.86% of single micron particles and over 99% of 20-micron particles per pass.

OC-1 key benefits

- Significant energy and water savings.
- Constant flow rate and pressure.
- Reduced backwash frequency.
- 30 x debris capacity compared to sand.
- Lightweight and easy to handle.

If you have a project or pool that you think could benefit from OC-1, please get in contact with us. We are happy to assist and offer advice on the advantages of OC-1.

With thanks to Jon Maskell, ThISPE(Cert.).
www.certikin.co.uk

2018 ISPE Awards

The ISPE Awards take place as part of the October Seminar, immediately after the AGM, but in 2018, unfortunately, it was a somewhat truncated event.

The first award that a new ISPE President makes is that of a gold (coloured!) ISPE lapel badge to the outgoing President, and newly-inaugurated ISPE President Colin Day congratulated outgoing President, John Cheek, and presented him with his badge.



John Cheek proudly wearing his new gold ISPE lapel badge

Of the ten newly qualified ISPE Technicians only two were present, Lee Craig, and Blair McGrath, who were, nevertheless, warmly applauded as they were presented with their new ISPE Technician certificates and ISPE lapel badges.

The Jim Johnson Filtration Shield may be awarded for an outstanding examination paper on the subject of Filtration or for a technical paper or seminar presentation on this subject. For 2018, for an excellent examination

paper, where the winner scored a very impressive 92%, it was awarded to Vincent Borley of Tanby Pools.



Vincent Borley, TnISPE(Cert.)

Unfortunately, Vincent was unable to be present at the ISPE Awards in October, but Colin Day was able to present the Jim Johnson Shield, and a replica for Vincent to keep, to him at the representation of the ISPE awards held during the 'Industry Gala Dinner' after the first day of SPATEX, on Tuesday 29th January, at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry.

The Gartside Cup is presented to the Student of the Year for achieving the highest overall marks in their four ISPE exams. Unfortunately, the winner was unable to be present at either the ISPE Awards or the ISPE representation of Awards, but the Gartside Cup will be presented to Darren Edwards at the forthcoming ISPE Seminar and a picture of the presentation will appear in the next issue.

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ISPE Back-to-Basics/Revision Day

Around twenty delegates attended the latest ISPE Revision Seminar, held at the popular Watermill Hotel, at Bourne End, near Hemel Hempstead, Herts., which was free for ISPE Students (ISPE members and non-members paid just £25 or £30 respectively).

The idea of the day is to give some guidance to those ISPE Students about to sit their ISPE exams, but the day is also a useful introduction to those thinking of enrolling onto the ISPE Home Study Course, or those who just fancy a bit of a refresher on the four subjects of the course, Filtration, Construction, Chemicals and Heating.

Chris Carr, FISPE started the ball rolling and welcomed everyone before giving his presentation on all things relevant to the Filtration section of the course.



Chris Carr - Filtration

Chris outlined some of the theory and then moved on to show some actual past exams questions with ideal (and not so ideal) answers.

Ian Betts, FISPE followed Chris and discussed the

Construction manual, again showing some actual past questions and demonstrating where the answers may be found in the manual.



Ian Betts - Construction

After a light lunch and short networking session, ISPE President, Colin Day, FISPE, took the reins and gave a refresher of the contents of the Chemicals

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section of the course with a couple of example questions to finish.



Colin Day - Chemicals

Last up for the day was John Scott, FISPE who looked at the Heating section. John looked at the various sections of the course and expanded upon some of the areas giving more detail and explanation, showing worked examples of some heating theory calculations.



John Scott - Heating

All four tutors covered the basics of the exam paper and marking system, explaining that all papers follow the same format. Section A has six questions and they are worth five marks each. It is suggested candidates spend just fifteen minutes on this section and write short, single sentence answers.

Section B has three questions and students select their best two to answer from the three. Each question is worth thirty five marks and candidates should spend fifteen minutes on each of the two questions, giving as much information as they can; stating the obvious can earn an extra mark!

All delegates were given attendance certificates indicating four CPD points together with copies of all the presentations, plus a free ISPE pen (courtesy of John Cheek, FISPE and his company, Hydrocare Ltd.).

A number of the delegates said they found the day most enjoyable and worthwhile.

It should be noted that all the information needed to pass the ISPE exams is within the four manuals and the three words that were repeated the most throughout the day were "READ THE MANUALS". Some students in the past have achieved stunning results of 90%+ in subjects when no Revision Seminar was presented, so bear this in mind.

Many thanks to Chris, Ian, Colin and John for giving their time to make this Seminar such a success.

If anybody is interested in attending a similar day next year, please email ross@ispe.co.uk to register your interest, and providing we have at least ten names on the list by early January we will fix a date. Remember, the day is free for ISPE Students and is extremely informative, particularly for those considering sitting the ISPE exams.

Ross Alcock - March 2019

New Members and Students

We extend a very warm welcome to all those who have recently joined or re-joined the Institute. If you have a colleague who would like more information on the ISPE and its activities, please email ross@ispe.co.uk or telephone 01603 499959 for more details.

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Dawson, A.	Swimming Pool Solutions
Edmondson, C.J.	Harris Pools and Leisure
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Else, K.	Hampshire
Evans, B.	Total Pool Chemicals Ltd.
Fordyce, S.	UK Poolstore Ltd.
Hayles, D.J.	HS Europe (Heatstar)
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Wilson's Words of Wisdom

I am finding it increasingly difficult to retire. The major reason being I am continuing to be offered work in exotic places like UAE, Italy and even the Channel Islands.

One thing that I welcomed about retiring is not having to get up at stupid o'clock and drive hundreds of miles to deliver training. Plus, I am fortunate in having guys like Steve Burke and Geoff Stafford, who deliver the ISPE-endorsed courses, both of them vastly experienced in our industry.

However, I do start to get itchy feet if I am at home for a week, but the lists of tasks being set for me by my wife grows ever longer and longer and unbelievably longer. I never realised how much muck accumulates in the

gutters surrounding my home. This is the only time that I wished I had a conventional house instead of a bungalow as I would not be able or even allowed to climb that high and would have to delegate it.

I am still having to wake relatively early as reruns of 'Cheers' is on at 6.30 and I am still finding bits of the inspired script that I missed first time around.

When my good friend, Freddy, goes out doing microbiological sampling I sometimes join him for no other reason than being bored, plus enjoying his company but, I just wish he would play some decent music on his car stereo system and not just classical rubbish all the time. I have even taken CDs with me to play but Freddy reckons that he has a device that only allows quality music to be played on his system and I am talking about music of the highest quality; Rolling Stones or ELO, but Freddy is adamant in his steadfast refusal. I suppose we could use my car and I could choose the music, but for two reasons, one; I just enjoy being driven, even by somebody performing a 'Driving Miss Daisy' impression and two; I'm a dreadful driver myself, so as Mick Jagger sung "You Can't Always Get What You Want" is certainly more than appropriate in this instance.

Looking back, I have been so fortunate in working in the pool industry, after all I am just a failed plumber who could not swim until I was 34 years old, but thanks to this industry in general, and ISPE

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in particular, I have been able to travel to exotic places like The Falklands, The Gambia, Telford, Nigeria, Kazakhstan, India, Torquay, Pakistan, Ireland, Gibraltar, Luton, Morocco, Tunisia, USA, Spain, Edinburgh, Doha, Abu Dhabi, The Canary islands, The Balearics, Greece, Cheltenham, Turkey and various other places like DarJerba and perchance the biggest bonus of all, by Business class!

Many of us are, at this time of year, booking up Summer holidays and within months we will, unfortunately, read of young children drowning in holiday pools. This is not an incident that simply ruins a holiday, this is something that ruins the lives of those affected by this tragedy. You, the guys (an asexual term) in our industry will more than likely recognise hazards that those outside of our industry would not see. This should make you more aware of dangers faced by our children, or in my case, grandchildren, that others may not see. From what I have seen, lifeguarding qualifications are similar all over the world. One of the most important things lifeguards are taught is the 10/20 rule. This basically means that lifeguards should be able to survey the area they are responsible for every ten seconds and also should be able to reach anywhere in that area within 20 seconds. Often, however, what we see are young lifeguards whom may have only entered the industry after watching two episodes of Baywatch, standing guard over pools, or would be if they were not surrounded by admiring teenagers

distracting them from undertaking their prime responsibilities; the saving of life.

Now I will never stop saying this: **“UNTIL THOSE IN YOUR CARE ARE AS COMPETENT AS YOU ARE IN THE WATER, ALWAYS ACCOMPANY THEM.”** Spend a few quid on quality swimming lessons before you go, you know it makes sense!

**Allen Wilson FISPE, Tech IOSH,
MInstSRM**

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Model Answer

At the recent ISPE Back-to-Basics/Revision Seminar (see report in this issue on pages 13 & 14) Ian Betts, FISPE, looked in detail at a question that was raised on the ISPE stand during SPATEX 2019. On the basis that if one or two people are asking about it, others must be thinking about it, we present a model answer, from Ian's presentation.

ISPE Study Course: Construction - Section 5

QUESTION 1.

Compare the double skim solid block/wall with the shellwall permanent shuttering system.

Model Answer:

The double dense concrete blockwork construction is very similar to a shuttered poured and vibrated method. In this type of construction, the blockwork is considered as permanent shuttering. The disadvantage is that it forms a wall much thicker than the shuttered wall construction normally some 300mm minimum to some 450mm depending on the height of the pool wall. The floor slab construction and reinforcement are the same as for the shuttered concrete wall and the shellwall 'PSS type' block wall construction. The cavity of the twin blockwork wall can be varied to suit the structural design and the reinforcement, while the shellwall construction blocks are manufactured to specific cavity widths and are provided with high tensile steel tie bars.

In the twin blockwork wall construction, there is an option for the required reinforcement to be

provided by layers of structural mesh, as the blockwork walls are tied together with suitable stainless-steel wall ties, as the twin walls are constructed, this is not possible with the shellwall blocks.

The reinforcement in the shellwall cavity has to be fabricated and fixed vertically and horizontally as the shellwall blocks are laid. The use of structural mesh is not possible due to the preformed block being provided with tie bars.

The advantage of the shellwall construction is that the blocks are lighter to handle than the 100mm thick dense concrete blocks used for permanent shuttering and can therefore be constructed quicker than the twin walls. This time saving however can be offset by the use of reinforcing mesh as opposed to fabricating and fixing the reinforcement in the twin wall construction. If the structural design does not allow for the use of structural mesh then the shellwall construction remains the speediest construction.

In both cases the concrete in the wall cavity should be a 30N/mm² mix and vibrated during placing to ensure a homogenous reinforced concrete core.

Both forms of wall construction can be constructed to comply with BS EN 1992 Parts 1 and 3.

Waterproof rendering and finishes are identical for both types of construction.

(If time permits, add freehand sketches based on the drawings (Sketch 7A and 8) in sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the Training Manual.

With thanks to Ian Betts, FISPE.

Presidential success at the ISPE Filtration Workshop



Delegates and organizers of the February 2019 ISPE Filtration Workshop

Back in February this year, representatives of the Institute of Swimming Pool Engineers headed over to Plastipack's headquarters for another very successful ISPE Filtration workshop. The Filtration workshop is now a regular fixture on the ISPE events calendar which is organized by Chris Carr FISPE and assisted by Phil Barlow FISPE & Kim Mumford MISPE and carries 6 CPD Points! Amongst the delegates for this particular session we were delighted to welcome both the current BSPF & ISPE Presidents, Will Dando, FISPE & Colin Day, FISPE, respectively. The ISPE Filtration workshop is usually run annually in November each year and caters for between 10 to a maximum of 16 delegates at a time. This workshop was

originally set for November last year but was rearranged due to illness of one of the presenters.

The main concept of this workshop is that each delegate will have the opportunity to more clearly understand both the theory and the practical elements of domestic swimming pool filtration, plant & equipment. For this session, delegates arrived from all over the country to a warm welcome from Plastipack staff, Pauline, Ian & Tim, as well as Chris, Phil & Kim.

Following a safety briefing, coffee and a Danish, the workshop commenced with a session of the theory for Domestic Filtration, presented in a Powerpoint display by Chris Carr. From the outset, Chris stressed that all delegates would be subject to a practical

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trade test as well as a multi-choice exam with certificates awarded for both elements being graded as; pass, merit, credit or distinction. Chris also mentioned that the candidate with the highest score would win a bottle of Champagne (kindly donated by Golden Coast).



Later in the morning all delegates set off to Plastipack's workshop for the practical trade test which was to make a pipe-work set. The pipe set test is designed to be awkward, but a good test to measure accuracy in cutting pipe, glue preparation, perfecting glued & threaded joints and general cleanliness. All delegates were monitored throughout the test and each completed item was marked against key criteria to ensure a good standard of workmanship and time taken.



A key area of the day's events is the importance of correctly sizing the pipe-work to comply with the standards for suction and return velocities. This seemed to be a bit of an eye opener for most delegates, when it seems that many older pools may have undersized suction pipe-work.



Chris also stressed the importance of two main drains (as opposed to a single main drain)

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which must be connected with uniform and correctly sized pipework so as to comply with current standards to avoid the serious risks of entrapment.

The morning sessions ran like clockwork and all delegates enjoyed an excellent buffet lunch arranged by Plastipack's Pauline (sponsored by MSI - the home of Zeocleare & Jolly Gel) before getting 'stuck in' to the afternoon practical session. Chris separated delegates into two groups for the afternoon 'hands on' session, putting together experienced and less experienced delegates. Chris & Phil instructed each group, covering aspects of the differences between each filter & pump with modern equipment supplied by: Certikin, SCP, Pollet, & Waterco. Each delegate was invited to empty and refill a filter of

its media (in this case Zeolite, which was donated by MSI). Phil was able to give a great deal of advice on pump & filter servicing, having worked on filtration plant for over 20 years. Kim also was on hand to give help and advice as she is one of a growing number of ladies who have significant 'hands on' experience with various aspects of pool maintenance and refurbishment. An excellent trend!



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Phil and Kim also prepared a variety of pumps which were to be completely stripped down and rebuilt, with Phil & Chris giving additional guidance as to how to test & change a mechanical seal. The delegates really enjoyed the team spirit, working together in groups and a fair amount of useful knowledge was exchanged between them, making the day even more valuable.



Later in the afternoon, delegates came back to the classroom and sat a twenty minute multi-choice exam. Whilst the exam papers were being marked, all delegates had the opportunity to have a tour of Plastipack's manufacturing, test and distribution facilities hosted by Tim Fielder. It was clear from the results that the day's events had paid off, as all members had more than reached the minimum pass mark and the

average for all attendees was an excellent 75%!

The highest combined score went to: Will Dando: 90.5%

2nd Place went to:

Jody Perkins: 84.5%

3rd Place went to:

James Russell: 84%



Kim Mumford congratulating Will Dando, for achieving the highest score on the day and being the winner of the Champagne!

Chris, Phil & Kim would like to say: Very well done to all delegates!

The Institute wishes to (once again) formally thank Plastipack for allowing the Institute to use their facilities for this event and Plastica for their pipe-work donations and continued support. Also, many thanks to Plastipack staff including: Pauline, who arranged the all important tea, coffee and a very nice buffet lunch. Needless to say, it all went 'swimmingly well'.



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The next ISPE Filtration will be held in November, so be sure to contact Ross (ross@ispe.co.uk or 01603 499959) to get your name on the list as this has become a very popular event and is on a first-come, first-served basis.



Suppliers/Sponsors

The Institute would like to thank the following companies for their invaluable support of the ISPE Filtration Workshop:

Plastipack for providing the venue and staff assistance;

Plastica for providing all delegates' pipe-work, fittings & adhesive;

MSI for sponsoring the lunch & supplier of Zeocleare & Jolly Gel;

CPC for providing goodie bags & chemical manuals;

Waterco for providing printed materials; and

Golden Coast for providing Champagne for the winner.

The Institute would also like to thank Chris Carr, Phil Barlow and Kim Mumford for all their time and hard work in making the ISPE Filtration Workshop possible.

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Site Lining - The Future of Liner Pools

PVC liner pools continue to be hugely popular across the country, having been introduced as long ago as the 1960's. Liner pools still offer the perfect solution for new builds and refurbishments, at a significantly lower cost compared to other pool finishes.

Domestic pools have the option of using a pre-tailored liner or upgrading to an onsite lined pool with many different finishes, including newly released 3D embossed patterns.

Gone are the days when a .750mm pool liner was the only option for a domestic liner pool. Site lining is increasing in demand and offers a vast range of patterns and extended guarantees. Why would you not offer this service to a pool owner?

Pre-tailored liners are manufactured in a factory after a pool contractor has provided measurements from a site survey. Made from .750mm PVC, the pool measurements are reduced (stretch factor) by the manufacturer and scaled drawings are prepared to provide the perfect fit and eliminate any incorrect measurements. Once the scaled drawings are finished, the pool's base and walls are divided up into sections, each of which are the width of the roll of PVC (typically 2 metres) and tailored on the cutting table. Once the panels have been cut, they are then ready to be welded together. The PVC panels are high frequency welded through a brass welding

tool which bonds the two materials together. This process is time consuming due to the 'dwell time' which ensures the weld has been successful. Without the 'dwell time' there is a risk the materials have not bonded together correctly. The liner then gets sent to packing where it is wrapped in waste material (for protection) and boxed ready for despatch. Pre-tailored liners are made with beading for pools with liner lock, but can also be overlapped which was very popular in years gone by. The life expectancy of a pre-tailored liner is between 7-10 years with manufacturer guarantees generally of a minimum of 5 years (pro rata).

The contracting pool company takes full responsibility for the installation using their own employees to install.

On site reinforced liners are installed directly by the pool lining company after being instructed by the pool contractor. 1.5/2.0mm reinforced rolls of PVC are taken to site and are cut and tailored to the pool shell with panels welded together by hot air. There are two methods a site lined pool can be 'hung'; firstly, with beading and liner lock (like a pre-tailored liner), and secondly using metal profile, which is PVC coated steel riveted to the pool's wall underneath the coping stones. Metal profile offers the perfect 'seamless finish' and is more popular for commercial pools. The site lining company installs felt

on the pool's base and walls to provide a perfect finish, the felt also offers protection to the back of the PVC. The pool walls are then cut and installed either using beading or metal profile, with the base and steps going in last. Once the shell has been covered, the pool's fixings are then cut and gaskets and faceplates (generally provided by the pool contractor) are installed by the pool lining company. The pool is then filled. The life expectancy of this type of lining is over 16 years, with manufacturer guarantees of a minimum of 15 years (pro rata).

The onsite lining company takes full responsibility for the fit of the lining, and offers the flexibility for the contracting pool company not to be on site during the installation.



Installing a pre-tailored liner can be time consuming, and installers can be tied up for days on end waiting for pools to fill before cutting fittings and making sure all creases are eliminated. On site lining gives the contracting pool company the advantage that their installers are not needed on site, and therefore can be attending other jobs at the same time.

Pre-tailored pool liners require the pool contractor to

provide accurate measurements to ensure a perfect fit for the liner to stretch into position. Again, this is time consuming and can result in multiple site visits to ensure the liner manufacturer has all the correct measurements. There is also the risk that the pool has not been measured correctly. On site lining only requires basic measurements, as the reinforced material is tailored on site to give the perfect finish even in the most complex pools. The end user has the peace of mind that the liner is being installed by a specialist company.

Prior to a pool being site lined the pool shell needs to be prepared by the pool contractor just as it would be for a pre-tailored liner; pipe work pressure tested, the shell free draining, shell to be cleaned

A screenshot of the AQUAFLEX website. At the top, there are three navigation links: "Pool Liners", "Solar & Winter Covers", and "On-Site Lining". Below these, the AQUAFLEX logo is prominently displayed in large blue letters, with an orange swoosh underneath. The tagline "The UK's leading Liner specialists" is written in blue text. In the bottom right corner of the page, there are social media icons for Facebook and Twitter, along with the company's address: "Aquaflex Limited, 1 Edison Road, Churchfields Industrial Estate, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP2 7NU", and contact details: "Tel: 01722 328 873 Fax: 01722 413 068" and the website "www.aquaflex.co.uk".

and prepared, liner gaskets/fittings supplied, top fix liner lock or metal profile, chlorine wash shell, arrangements made to keep ground water at bay and loose render to be made good around the top of the pool.



From site lining cracked/tired fibreglass step units, large commercial pools or small domestic pools, site lining has revolutionised what can be done in new build pools and renovations.

To summarise, site lining offers a service which transforms pools in a timescale unrivalled by other finishes such as ceramic tiles and fibreglass. With the average pool (with steps) being site lined within a week in patterns that now rival ceramic tiled pools with 3D embossed material, the pool owner can now have the best of both

worlds. A pool that appears to have a ceramic tile finish, a guarantee which offers many years of trouble-free enjoyment and an installation process which doesn't leave the pool out of action for long periods of time.



The future is big and exciting for site lining, increasing in popularity year on year with more and more pool contractors taking advantage of the service. We are excited about what the next 60 years has to offer.

Brad Armstrong, Sales Manager
brad@aquaflex.co.uk
www.aquaflex.co.uk

Are You Interested?

The ISPE has recently held two successful events: the ISPE Filtration Workshop and the (free to ISPE Students) ISPE Back-to-Basics/Revision Seminar.

If there is sufficient interest, the next ISPE Filtration workshop will run in November 2019, in East Sussex and the next Back-to-Basics Seminar will be in February 2020, in Hertfordshire.

For more details and to register your interest in attending, please email ross@ispe.co.uk now.

Tales from the Other End of the Bar

Nothing to do with Swimming Pools but a light-hearted nod towards the writings of former ISPE Company Secretary, Molly Alcock, who penned the series of articles entitled "The Village Pump" for the ISPE Magazine for many years.

Back in the 1980s there were very strict licensing laws that controlled when pubs could open and close. The *general* rule was that pubs could open Monday to Saturday at 10.30am (12 noon on Sundays) and had to close by 2.30pm. They could re-open at 6.00pm and had to close at 10.30pm, or in some places, 11.00pm on Friday and Saturday.

In the pub of the 'village pump' fame, like many village pubs, there was a certain 'flexibility' in the opening hours. If the local policeman was off duty, the Jolly Landlord would serve well past 'time' and there was a general condition that he would not fall under the wrath of the law unless there was shouting or any nuisance caused as people left the building, at whatever time.

However, this flexibility normally applied to locals or regulars only. If any strangers were in the bar there was often quite a lot of subterfuge to kid them that the bar was closing for the night (or afternoon) so they would be on their way. The Landlord or whoever was behind the bar would ring the last-orders bell at the appropriate time, to a chorus of moaning, and then just ten minutes later he (or she) would shout "Time!" and that was the cue for everyone to leave. Non-regulars would normally drink up and leave immediately and as soon as they had cleared the car park, the 'afters' would begin.

One of the reasons that the non-locals or strangers were not included in this late-night shenanigans was that there had, in other pubs, been instances where plain clothed police had been offered late drinks and at that point had produced their official ID cards and reported the offending landlord. Therefore, most landlords were very particular as to who they would include in their unofficial late night (or late-afternoon) drinking clubs, if they entertained such a thing (many didn't).

Sometimes, holiday makers in the village would endear themselves

The advertisement features a photograph of a person's head wearing pink swimming goggles. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with water and sunlight. The text 'triogen® products' is at the top, followed by 'Ozone, Ultraviolet & Advanced Oxidation Process' in large, bold, white font. Contact information is provided at the bottom: +44 (0)13 55 220 598, info@triogen.com, and www.triogen.com. The SUEZ logo is at the bottom right.

to the landlord by spending well for two or three days and they would, by about their fourth or fifth visit, be allowed to partake in the 'afters'.

At the far end of the village there was a Care Home and the owner lived just up the road too, with her husband who was a famous decorated war pilot.

Now, they had friends in high places, and it became known to a very select few that Her Majesty the Queen Mother was going to be making a visit to see them, to take tea, and to open a new wing of their care home.

Of course, being a village, the select few told one or two of their closest friends, in the strictest of confidence, of course, about the impending visit, and the next thing was that everyone was out carefully trimming hedges and lawns and dead-heading roses and the like to make sure their gardens looked the most attractive when the QM drove by.

As the secret unfurled it became apparent that the QM would arrive on the village green by helicopter (at an unspecified time) and would be driven in a Rolls Royce to her hosts' mansion. One hour later the car would return its precious cargo to the village green and the QM would take to the sky once more to be back at her London quarters for supper.

Amazingly, considering the pedigree of the village gossips the code for this 'unspecified' time could not be broken. Rumour said the QM would arrive at 10am, 11.30am, or 2pm and pretty much every time, but nobody *actually* knew. Even the local policeman was kept out of the loop and one night, when not on duty, all he would say was that on that day he was not permitted to be within 500 yards of the landing site and all policing would be enforced by "The Met" and HM

Protection Squad, who dealt with this sort of thing on a daily basis.

On the day of the grand visit there was a certain buzz about the village and then at about 1.45pm a few expensive cars appeared and some smartly dressed, very big and serious looking men got out and started wandering around the village.

One or two such cars parked in the pub car park and the occupants wandered off to the village green or up the road past the pub.

At about 2.00pm the pub door opened and two very large, fit looking and suited men came into the bar. They looked around at the assembled company, which included Charlie, Molly, one or two of their old chums and a few of us youngsters at our end of the bar.

"Still open guv'nor?" one of the men enquired, sounding just like Inspector Jack Regan of TVs 'The Sweeney'. The landlord replied in his best posh voice that he was indeed still open but only for about twenty more minutes.

The gents each ordered a whisky and sat at a table, casting the occasional glance around and out of the window which gave them a good view down the street towards the village green.

The Landlord rang the last-orders bell at 2.20pm and not wanting any trouble, most of the regulars, including me, that day, drank up and left, leaving Molly, Charlie and a couple of others.

Molly recounted the rest of the story later.

When the Landlord rang the last bell at exactly 2.30pm one of the large gents wandered up to the bar and quietly said "Any chance of another drink Guv'nor?" and gave him a wink.

The landlord served them

another and asked if they minded if the two or three regulars had one too. The official-looking gents said they didn't mind at all and so for the next half an hour a couple more drinks each were eagerly consumed.

At about 2.55pm the two large gents said that they were just nipping out for a while but asked if they could come back in about twenty minutes. The landlord said he'd be delighted to see them and they left. Knowing that this was the cue for the imminent arrival of the helicopter, the regulars left too and they all wandered down to the village green where at exactly 3pm, the helicopter arrived and everyone cheered as the QM emerged and got into the waiting Rolls Royce which whisked her off up the road.

After a few minutes the crowds dispersed and the few regulars, now accompanied by a few more, together with the two large gents returned to the pub.

Much drinking ensued and after a while the two gents had joined the others at the bar.

After nearly an hour passed, the jolly landlord, seeing the two gents were now slightly worse for wear, asked them if they realised what the time was. One of them said "About four mate" and took another sip of his whisky.

The jolly landlord enquired as to whether they needed to be back at the village green to see the Queen Mother safely back on her flight. The two gents looked puzzled. "I think she's got enough security around without needing our help" one said. The landlord looked even more puzzled, "but aren't you two part of the protection squad?" he asked. The two large men burst out laughing. "Protection squad?" one said. "You're

joking" said the other. "We sell stainless steel sinks, mate" the first one continued.

"Sinks?" exclaimed the landlord. "But you asked me if you could have a late drink". "Well, yes" said one, "but only because we knew there were lots of police around!"

He continued to say that they lived in the next village and were just heading home and saw the pub open.

When the landlord questioned as to how they knew when the helicopter was arriving one of them said that just before they left, they had seen, from their window seat, that the police had cordoned off the road.

The landlord was both happy and cross. He was happy that he had taken a good deal of money that afternoon but at the same time felt he had been tricked to a certain extent and concerned that at any time any one of the many police crawling around the village could have reported him for serving after hours.

Of course the locals loved the story and for some months after, some of the more cheeky-minded of them would call out to the landlord "Any chance of another drink Guv'nor" and give him a wink.

I will leave you to guess what the landlord's reply was to these requests!

Ross Alcock - March 2019.

The ISPE CPD Scheme

To register (currently free) on, or for details of, the ISPE CPD Scheme please email ross@ispe.co.uk.

Those who register will receive a free ISPE CPD folder to keep attendance CPD certificates all in one place and a CPD activity log sheet to record all training upon.

Situations Vacant Summary & Last Words

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.*

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Swimming Pool Maintenance Engineer

Based in the South West of England

Email Addresses

We have mentioned this many times, but if we have not emailed you in the last six months please email us (ross@ispe.co.uk) so we have all our members' email addresses. We promise to never pass these to any third party or bombard you with emails, but sometimes it would be useful if we need to get information out to you quickly.

The Next ISPE Magazine

This will be out in early July.

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Going Up, Going Down...

We have lots of old trade magazines in our archives and in a 1980 edition of Swimming Pool News, Michael Cope in his editorial, referred to the Minimum Lending Rate (MLR) recently being reduced by 1% to 16% and said that the Government was hoping to reduce inflation from 21% to a 'more tolerable 16.5%'. Incredible, eh?

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