

RT SWIMMING POOL SERVICES

PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL SWIMMING POOL AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES SINCE 1970

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Spring 2023 Newsletter. I hope that you all managed to stay well over the winter period? Let's hope for a repeat of the long hot summer of 2022 so you can all enjoy your outdoor pools and spas in the sun in 2023.

After joining us on 1st November 2021 in a full-time capacity Glyn Richards has done a great job in managing the Service and Maintenance side of the business as Senior General Manager. I am delighted to advise that from 1st May 2023 Glyn will be joining the Board of RT Swimming Pool Services Limited (RTSPSL) as Technical Director. After over 52 years, this will allow me to spend more time with my wife, goddaughter and her family. I will, however continue in my role as Managing Director and be on hand to assist and offer Glyn and the team my help when needed.

As with all businesses, the cost of running our business has increased substantially over the past two years or so and after keeping our labour rates unchanged for 3 years, we increased our rates by 5% from April 2021 and by a further 5% from April 2022. I am afraid that we will

again have to increase our rates from April 2023, but this will once again be limited to approximately 5%. This will enable us to help our hard working and highly skilled Engineers with the cost of living increases they face and meet the ever-increasing overheads of the Company. As regards chemicals and materials, we again bought substantially prior to the end of 2022 and will soon be reviewing our pricing for the coming year. Our policy will continue to be, maximum RRP, but with reductions where we are able.

With cost savings in mind, in our "Pool Doctor" section on pages 3 and 4 we have highlighted essential ongoing maintenance to your pool and equipment. Such maintenance will not only substantially improve water quality but will also reduce running costs over the medium to longer term.

We realise that you have a choice, so thank you for your continued custom and support. Where we open your pool, Glyn and the team will be in touch shortly to arrange for a mutually convenient time to implement the process. Wishing you all happy and safe swimming!

Richard



POOL DESIGN, BUILD & REFURBISHMENT



MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS



POOL/SPA OPENING/CLOSING



RENOVATIONS & REPAIRS



POOL/SPA EQUIPMENT/CHEMICALS



GENERAL POOL/SPA CLEANING



CHAMPION OF THE SOUTH WEST HOLLAND PRESTIGE AWARDS
2022 WINNER



Richard Tyrrell MISPE
Managing Director

Hello to you all. I hope the winter months have been kind to you and that those of you with outdoor facilities are looking forward to using your pools and spas very soon. We can't wait to get back out onto the road.

As Richard has noted, I have been invited to join the Board of RT Swimming Pool Services Limited, which is a great honour to me. I am really looking forward to working with the existing Directors to increase our range of service offerings and quality of service to you, our valued clients.

In early February, along with David Brown our Senior Swimming Pool Engineer, I attended the country's largest swimming pool and spa trade show in Coventry. We both came away enthused by the pool and spa equipment that is new to the market. Such new equipment included spa tubs, pool and covers, robotic cleaners, air source heat pumps, new methods of leak detection and all things energy saving. Indeed, the main theme of the exhibition was energy saving equipment and practices. If you have any questions about equipment newly available to the market, please do not hesitate to ask.

As mentioned previously, providing an environment where good water quality can prevail has long been a passion of mine. In the "Pool Doctor" section we share the results of a case study we completed on one pool which needed attention in a number of areas.

Having replaced the sand in the filter, installed a UV Quantum Unit and re-grouted the entire pool we analysed the use of chemicals over the summer season on a before and after basis. Not only were the savings substantial but the ongoing water quality improved remarkably.

Glyn



Glyn Richards
Senior General Manager

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED AT WORK TODAY!



*Our "Pool Doctor",
Richard recalls another
amusing incident from
his 52 years plus in
the pool's industry*

We had just completed the construction of a 40' x 20' reinforced concrete pool with wide roman end steps in a lovely part of North Dorset. The actual build had been troublesome as we encountered running green sand and water. However, we managed to overcome all of that and finish the structure of the pool to the point that we were able install a constructors dome so that we could commence mosaicing the pool.

It was around the Christmas/New Year period and the weather was not good. There was a major storm and the dome blew into the pool and all the securing water bags froze solid. Eventually we managed to retrieve the dome and put it back in place. With the use of blow heaters we managed to dry everything out and continue mosaicing.

The owner, a lovely gentleman wanted everything to blend in with the natural surrounding area. I had even had the coping stones and paving specially made to match the surroundings.

We decided to use light grey mosaics for the pool and we were about half way through mosaicing when the owner called me from the dome to ask "Tell me Richard, what's it going to look like with grey mosaics" – a heart stopping moment for me and after a few moments thought, I replied "haven't got a clue, never done one with grey mosaics before". "oh" he replied.

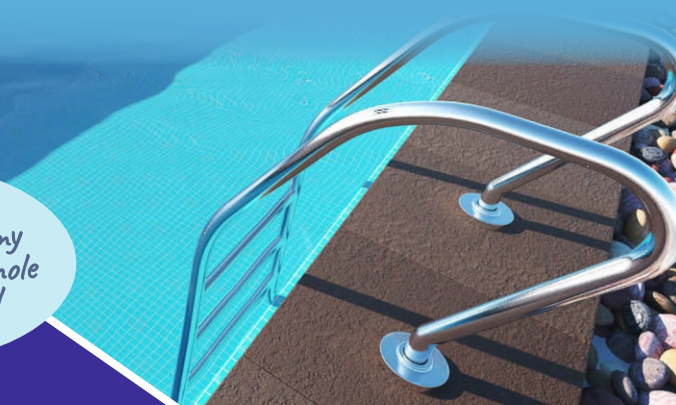
Luckily, when the pool was filled, it turned out a lovely light turquoise water colour with the mosaics above the water line blending beautifully with the coping stones and paving.

I enjoyed a pint that night!

The POOL DOCTOR



La La La -
In and around my
semi-retirement hole
in the ground!



In our regular “Pool Doctor” section, we look at essential maintenance of your pool and equipment which can lead to cost savings over the medium to longer term.

Changing the sand in your swimming pool filter -

When new, the sand in your filter has been ground to a size of 0.45 to 0.55mm in diameter and is very rough. The roughness of the sand is what makes it efficient at filtering out the particles of dirt in the pool water. Over time the roughness of the sand is smoothed out as stones in the flow of water pass through the filtering system. As the sand becomes smoother, the efficiency of the filter deteriorates. As the efficiency decreases, the sanitiser required increases, leading to increased chemical costs. At RT Swimming Pool Services, we recommend that the sand in your filtration system is changed at least every five years. This is a task that we would be happy to complete for you.

Re-grouting your swimming pool - As a rule of thumb, we would say that you should have your pool looked at with a view to re-grouting after a period of 10 to 15 years or earlier should you experience a combination of any of the following:

- Areas of grout are missing
- Black lines where grout should be
- The appearance of “black spots”
- Pool water keeps going green
- Your pool is becoming a problem

Where the grout is missing, algae spores will start to form on

the porous surface under the tiles. Algae loves porous surfaces. Where this happens the use of chemicals to keep the water in balance increases drastically.

At RT Swimming Pools we have extensive experience in re-grouting of pools and would be happy to assist should you feel your pool would benefit from a re-grout.

Upgrade your equipment with the installation of a UV Quantum Unit -

Quantum has been using its nano crystal technology in hospitals and drinking water purification for some time but in the past few years has brought this technology to the pools industry. One of the many benefits of the Quantum is that it significantly reduces the need for sanitisers such as chlorine or bromine etc. Advantages of using an UV Quantum Unit include:

- Neutralises bacteria, viruses, algae and fungi that traditional chemicals are unable to
- Keeps bathers safe from cryptosporidium, adenoviruses and naegleria fowleri microorganisms
- Reduces the need for chemicals. Chlorine, bromine etc can be run at a lower level
- Eliminates contaminants, leaving pool water looking fresh and clean
- Salt water compatible

Since the “Pool Doctor” first brought Quantum technology to clients' attention around 5 years ago, RT Swimming Pool Services have installed many units, which have proved very successful. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to discuss how your pool may benefit from Quantum technology.

CUSTOMER CASE STUDY ...

RT Swimming Pool Services have been maintaining an outdoor pool in Lilliput near Poole, Dorset for a number of years. During 2021 the pool became troublesome, with the water quality deteriorating and often becoming green. This required extensive use of chemicals to treat the various issues.

The following remedial actions were taken by RT Swimming Pool Services upon our customers instructions:

- **August 2021** – sand change to filter
- **March/April 2022** – UV Quantum Unit installed
- **March/April 2022** – complete re-grout

Our service contract with our client is to open in the Spring and close in the Autumn and to carry out weekly service visits in season. As part of our “case study” we calculated the use of chemicals during the period May to early October 2021, which was prior to the actions noted above being completed (excepting the sand change, which was carried out at the latter end of the season) and compared the resultant usage to the period May to early October 2022, when the remedial actions had been completed.

The results are quite staggering. During the period May to early October 2022 (based on 2022 prices) the cost of chemicals (net of VAT) was £1,085.35 less than the same period during 2021. In addition to this, our time on site was far less as the water quality was so much improved.

SWIMMING POOL LEAK DETECTION SERVICES

In our Spring 2022 Newsletter <https://rtswimmingpoolservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/RT-Swimming-Pools-Newsletter-Spring-2022.pdf> we discussed our experience and approach to leak detection and repair. We advised of the tools that we possessed at the time to assist us in our efforts which included a leak detection pressure kit and an inspection camera.



We are pleased to advise that the Board has sanctioned the purchase of the latest electronic listening device, which is a powerful addition to the leak detection equipment we already use. This will enable us to pin point leaks to underground pipework and plumbing by detecting the distinctive bubbling sound created when air is blown through the leak into water saturated soil.

The cost of replacing lost water as a result of a leak from pipework, fittings etc can be substantial, so should you feel your pool and equipment may be losing water, please do not hesitate to contact us. We would be happy to assist.

ENERGY SAVING AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

We discussed the benefits of upgrading to an air source heat pump in our Autumn 2022 Newsletter

<https://rtswimmingpoolservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/RT-Swimming-Pools-Newsletter-Autumn-2022.pdf>

An air source heat pump absorbs heat from the air and transfers it to the pool water. In simple terms it's like a fridge but working in reverse by passing warm air through a compressor and evaporator and transferring that heat through a heat exchanger into the pool water. The latest generation of inverter type heat pumps are incredibly efficient making them cheaper to run and kinder to the environment.

Our article included a contribution from our customer Mr C from Broadstone.

Mr C explained why he chose the option of an air source heat pump and the reasons why he appointed RT Swimming Pool Services to complete the installation.

Mr C concluded "if you have a spa or pool and you want to heat the water in it even just during the warmer months, then definitely consider an air source heat pump, especially if you have the space to do so. Long term it's a no brainer".

Mr C reckons that you could be looking at a repayment period of as little as 18 months to 2 years.



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Please contact us to discuss your swimming pool requirements!

Unit C15 | Admiralty Park | Station Road | Holton Heath | Dorset | BH16 6HX

01202 536455 **07977 036068**

info@rtswimmingpoolservices.com **www.rtswwimmingpoolservices.com**

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