

RT SWIMMING POOL SERVICES

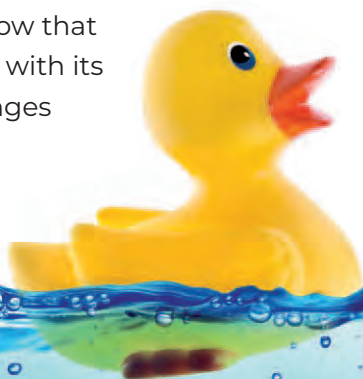
Spring 2025
Newsletter

Welcome to our Spring 2025 newsletter and I hope you all "wintered" well and are looking forward to enjoying your pools and spas over the Spring and Summer. Let's hope for much better weather this Summer than last year!

As we usher in the refreshing embrace of spring, it's time to shake off the winter chill and look ahead to vibrant sunny days by the pool or spa! At RT Swimming Pool Services Limited (RTSPSL), we are totally committed to ensuring your pools and spas are in top condition and ready for the splashes of summer fun.

Spring is not just a brightening of our days; it's a key time for maintenance and rejuvenation of outdoor spaces, especially our beloved swimming pools and spas. As temperatures rise, there is no better time to take action. Routine checks, cleaning, and preventive maintenance can make all the difference in keeping your pool and spa systems running smoothly and efficiently. This is an area where myself and our expert Engineers are able to assist.

When it comes to pools and spas, a bit of care in the spring means peace of mind throughout the summer. Our expert Engineers are fully equipped with the tools and knowledge to take care of everything. From skimming debris to servicing pumps and filters. We know that each pool and spa comes with its own set of unique challenges and we are committed to providing customised solutions to our clients.



Should you not have already done so, please consider scheduling a thorough spring service with us. Let us handle the technicalities, so you can focus on what truly matters: making unforgettable memories. For those customers where we prepare you pools and spas for use in the swimming season, I will be in touch shortly to agree an opening timetable.



Here's to a season filled with sunshine, shimmering waters, and endless fun and enjoyment in your pools and spas!

Glyn

Glyn Richards,
Technical Director



Our customer Google Reviews say it all....

★★★★★

"It's hard and so important to find a company you can trust. RT Swimming Pool Services are professional, true to their word, deliver great value for money and most importantly stay with you until the job is done. I've had the pleasure of dealing with Glyn, David and Andrew. I wouldn't consider using anyone else. A massive thank you guys and I look forward to working with you in the future." Google Review, T. Jones



POOL
DESIGN, BUILD &
REFURBISHMENT



MAINTENANCE
CONTRACTS



POOL/SPA
OPENING &
CLOSING



RENOVATIONS
& REPAIRS



POOL/SPA
EQUIPMENT &
CHEMICALS



GENERAL
POOL/SPA
CLEANING

STAFFING MATTERS

Unfortunately, due to health issues, Ian Kirk was no longer able to continue working and left us at the end of the Summer. Ian will be a great miss and we thank him for his service and wish him well for the future. Paul Bennett also left at the end of the Summer to pursue other interests and again we thank Paul for his efforts over the three years he was with us. Both Ian and Paul were part time Engineers working two days a week.

We are delighted to advise that we have secured the services of Neil Adams as a full time Swimming Pool Engineer who joined the team during November 2024.



Neil's career in Engineering commenced during 2002 in Agriculture, where he spent over 6 years maintaining, servicing and repairing various types of farm machinery. This experience developed a practical and mechanical mind set. In 2008, Neil moved to Bournemouth and worked for Hamworthy Engineering Ltd. where he built and tested pumps and compressors for the water and gas industry.

A career move then followed into hotel maintenance management. During a period of 8 years Neil developed a variety of skills which included the opportunity to work on swimming pools where he was responsible for a number of tasks, including service, maintenance, plumbing and electrical support. Prior to joining RTSPSL Neil worked as a premises technician for Ageas UK insurance looking after office spaces for a period of 4 years.

Since joining the Company Neil has completed the Level Three Pool Plant Operators Course, passing the examination with flying colours. We welcome Neil to RT Swimming Pool Services Limited.



2025 will see 55 years in the pool business for our Managing Director and founder, Richard Tyrell. Over this period, his dedication, knowledge and skill has earned him the title of “Pool Doctor” in the swimming pool community. Last year, the “Pool Doctor” highlighted basic pool principles that are as relevant now as they were back in 1970. This year, Richard features his latest pool design and build which was completed during 2024 and reflects on how clients' attitudes to design and builds haven't changed greatly over his long career.

During my 55 years in the pools industry, I have had pleasure in project managing, designing and building many swimming pools for many customers. In last years Newsletter I reflected on basis pool principles and concluded that these hadn't changed greatly since 1970 and now thinking about pool design and customers attitudes to pool builds, I think also that little has changed over the years.

★★★★★

“We had just purchased a home with a very old and dilapidated pool. Glyn attended and I was struck by his friendliness and professionalism. I immediately knew that this was a firm I could trust. The team set to work and have essentially provided us with a brand new pool. Glyn has been responsive to my follow on enquiries and is more than happy to provide his advice and time. A really friendly team that I would recommend.”

Google Review, M. Houghton

In my experience, customers fall into two distinct categories, one part will have very strong, set ideas on what they want and the other part will look to me as the expert and ask for my ideas. Both types present their own unique challenges. I am often at odds with customers who have it all sorted in their own minds as to what they want as they may have totally overlooked basic requirements or practical issues. Whereas, with customers who leave it to me, the pressure is on to design features into the pool layout to try to break up the levels and create a bespoke pool area. The surroundings and settings I look to create make the pool.

I recall an amusing incident from back in the 70s when I was asked to call upon a customer to present some design ideas for a new pool. At the time I was a young man and not very long in the business. The house was very large as was the lady owner who greeted my arrival. It was January and the lady walked me around the frosty garden and my eye caught the sight of a large flat lawn with a pond.

Taking in the scenery of the garden, I explained that maybe we could build a nice rockery area behind the pond to use as a focal backdrop to the pool area. The lady and I proceeded towards the pond and as we walked around it, all I could hear was a loud crack as one of the crazy paving stones broke and then an enormous splash as the lady disappeared into a 5 foot deep Koy pond. After a few seconds the lady surfaced spluttering amongst the Lillies. As I helped her out, she said “well I have never done that before”. All too much for me as I tried to contain my amusement. Funnily enough we didn't hear from the lady again!

Even after 55 years in the business, I still get immense pleasure from creating a new pool in a

bespoke area and then seeing the owners enjoying it when it's completed. Our latest pool build project, which was completed in the Autumn of 2024 was particularly rewarding as I completed the build of the old pool many years ago and then the Company serviced and maintained the pool and equipment before being asked to design and project manage the completion of the new one last year.

The brief I received from our customer was that they wanted a bigger pool this time. I therefore, increased the length by 10 foot and designed the steps to keep them to the side to increase the available swimming area. I was asked to design and project manage the build in conjunction with a local builder and our Company carrying out all specialised works.

The picture above shows the old pool, just at the time we started our work on creating the new pool.

The old pool was a steel panelled liner pool, 28' x 14' wide with Roman end steps which I built back in 1989. The new pool is 38' x 14' wide and has an overall depth of 5' to give 4' 6” of swimming water. The pools design includes reinforced concrete walls and incorporates a side mounted, square stair step unit, Raj Indian Sandstone paving and bespoke matching coping stones. The pool is site lined, has LED lighting, sand filtration and a full inverter heat pump.

My final photograph shows the new pool in late Autumn, just waiting to be winterised.

Richard



Richard Tyrell MISPE
Managing Director

We discuss the benefits of performing a sand change in your swimming pool filtration system.

As summer draws nearer and the days grow longer, many homeowners are preparing to dive into the refreshing waters of their swimming pools. After ensuring your pool is spotless and ready for use, it's crucial not to overlook an essential component that plays a vital role in maintaining water quality: your pool's filtration system. A key aspect of this system is its filter medium, often sand, which can greatly affect the overall efficiency of pool maintenance.

Sand, as a filtration medium is a popular choice due to its durability, easy maintenance, and effective filtration process. During the filtration cycle, water from the pool is drawn into the filter. The sand, which serves as the filtering medium, captures dirt, debris, and contaminants, returning clean water to the pool.

Typically, sand filters use #20 silica sand, which has been specially graded for pool filtration. Over time, however, the sand can become clumped, coated with contaminants, and degraded—resulting in less-effective filtration. This is when the sand in the filtration system needs changing.

One of the most notable benefits of changing the sand in the filtration system is the improvement in water clarity and overall quality. Fresh sand has a larger surface area than old sand, allowing it to trap finer particles that might otherwise go unfiltered. As the grains of sand age, they smooth out, and their ability to grab microscopic particles declines. This can lead to cloudy water, which is not only unattractive but can also harbor harmful bacteria and detritus. Changing your sand revitalises its efficacy and allows for cleaner, clearer, and healthier swimming experiences.

Another merit of a sand change revolves around system efficiency. Over time, the buildup of dirt and oils can cause significant clogging in the filter. As clogs accumulate, the flow rate of the pump decreases - meaning a less-efficient filter that spends more energy

operating, increasing the operational costs of your pool. Fresh sand improves circulation by reducing back pressure on the filtration system, allowing it to keep pace with a cleaner flow of water. This enhancement also leads to savings on energy bills, demonstrating that maintaining your pool system aids not only in hygiene but also in budget management.

A healthy pool environment is crucial, particularly as temperatures rise. Stagnant water can promote algae growth and the return of pathogens, posing risks to health and safety. Outdated sand may not effectively capture these problematic organisms, and consequently results in unwanted algae blooms or pathogens as filtration deteriorates. Changing the sand provides a new slate for filtration, ensuring harmful bacteria don't multiply and further emphasises pool aesthetics, keeping it inviting and enjoyable for pool users.

An often overlooked advantage of changing sand is its role in prolonging the lifespan of your entire filtration system. Dead bugs, sunblock residue, and organic debris that remain trapped within old sand can lead to corrosion or lined petrification in the filter tank. By periodically replacing aged sand, you can limit the wear and tear on the entire filter system, allowing it to remain functional longer and saving money in replacement costs.

For the best results, pool experts recommend changing the sand in your filtration system every 3 to 5 years, depending on pool usage and water quality. It's advisable to schedule this task over the Winter period or early Spring before pool season, ensuring peak performance as you're gearing up for full-time swimming.

Investing time in a sand change for your swimming pool filtration system is a vital step toward maintaining everything from water quality and safety to systems efficiency and longevity. Preparing for the swimming season shouldn't only focus on getting the aesthetic elements right but should also highlight integral components that enhance the overall experience. A clean filter and fresh sand restore your peace of mind while ensuring your summer fun proceeds without a hitch.

Please contact us to discuss your swimming pool requirements!

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DESIGN, BUILD &
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**MAINTENANCE
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