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The voice of the Wet Industry

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October/November 2011

The Origin of Pebble

History and future of an Aussie innovation

CARTRIDGE FILTERS

The pros & cons

RAZOR HOUSE

Pool as art



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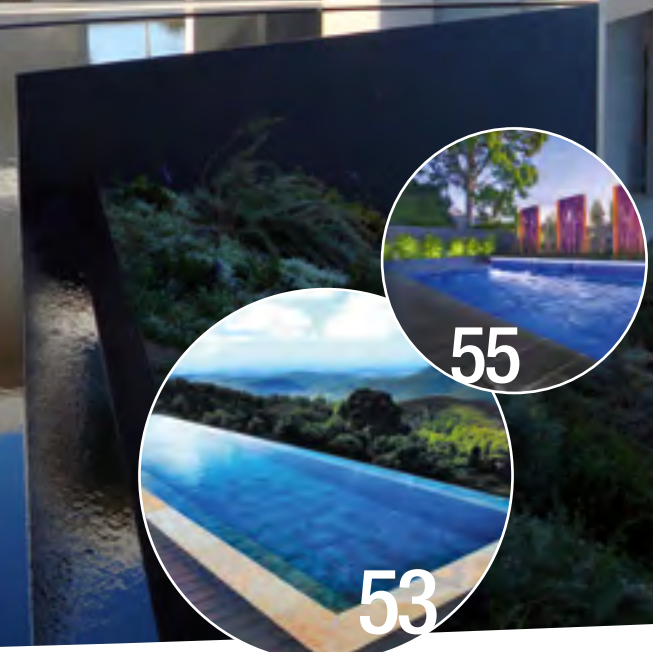
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Published by

The Intermedia Group Pty Ltd
 ABN 940 025 83 682
 41 Bridge Road, Glebe, NSW, 2037 Australia
 Ph: (02) 9660 2113 Fax: (02) 9660 4419

Managing Director: Simon Grover

Managing Director Interpoint Events: Simon Cooper

Editor: Chris Maher
 Phone: 0412 048 639
 Email: chrismaher@intermedia.com.au

Contributors: Christina DiMartino, Alan Lewis,
 Paul Matthei

Advertising Manager: Karen Jaques
 Phone: (02) 8586 6135
 Email: kjaques@intermedia.com.au

Production Manager: Heidi Glasson

Graphic Designer: Melissa Drennan

Head of Circulation: Chris Blacklock

For Subscriptions Call: 1800 651 422

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Welcome to SPLASH!



The recent miserable weather got even worse across the ditch at the SPLASH! New Zealand show. In fact, the freezing, blizzard-like conditions were considered the worst in the Kiwi capital for 75 years. Still, many brave souls ventured like Scott of the Antarctic through the sleet and snow to come to the show. Thanks to those who made the effort – I believe it was worthwhile. There is more information on the show on page 26.

People came from all over the world – but mostly New Zealand and Australia. One person who came considerably further was Dr Ole Gronborg. He was spreading the word about some new methods – based on extensive European research – to reduce disinfection by-products in swimming pool water. It was an enlightening presentation. He also presented at the Better Water Seminar series, and we have a summary of his ideas on page 74.

This issue we have a number of features, from advice on cartridge filters (page 48) to the intriguing Unburied Treasures on page 28, to some history of our own with the origins (and future) of pebble pool surfaces (page 40).

I hope you enjoy this issue, and I also hope the weather continues to improve – not only in Wellington, but across the whole of Australasia. We could certainly do with a good spring and summer.



Chris Maher
 Editor
chrismaher@intermedia.com.au



This issue's cover

The cover shot shows the amazing Razor House and pool, designed by Wallace E Cunningham. There is more on this project on page 45. The inset shot shows one of the skeletons unearthed while excavating the London Olympics pool. For more on strange findings in pool digs, go to page 28.

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SPASA Australia representatives

Swimming Pool & Spa Association of Australia launched

THE SWIMMING POOL AND SPA INDUSTRY FINALLY HAS A NATIONAL PEAK BODY TO LOBBY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL AGENCIES ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE INDUSTRY.

ONE of the pool and spa industry's major impediments in getting the ear of the Federal Government and their agencies has been the fact that the associations are state based.

In an environment with increasingly harmonised national laws, that has made it difficult to reach some government bodies; and therefore difficult for the associations to lobby on behalf of the industry. For this reason, there has long been a call for the formation of a national body.

That has now eventuated with the formation of the Swimming Pool & Spa Association of Australia Ltd (SPASA Australia).

SPASA Australia will be the peak body for the swimming pool and spa industry nationally, bringing together the existing state associations under a federal body.

Its main aim will be to act as the point of contact between the industry and the Commonwealth Government. The association will also aim to address important industry and community issues including:

- Australian Standards and safety;
- Workplace occupational health and safety;
- Water and energy conservation; and
- National training and licensing standards.

Every state SPASA president automati-

cally becomes a director of the SPASA Australia board. The Honorary Board Chairman is Manfred Wiesemes.

"This new association-of-associations brings together the SPASA organisations in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia," Wiesemes says.

"The industry contributes enormously to the national economy, and must be heard. SPASA Australia was formed because the industry recognised the need to address safety, environmental and regulatory issues in a coordinated manner. We also recognised that the Commonwealth Government prefers to consult with national peak bodies on regulatory issues.

"We believe that owning a swimming pool or spa is part of the lifestyle that Australians from all walks of life aspire to. The backyard pool is one of the most iconic of Australian images – even The Lodge has one."

The formation of the national body does not affect the existing relationships members have with their state associations.

Brendan Watkins is the Company Secretary of the newly formed association. For more information call (03) 9872 4502 or email brendan@spasavic.com.au.

Pool techs to achieve occupation status

SWIMMING Pool and Spa Technicians will have their role registered as a distinct occupation in the Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO) with the development of two trade qualifications in 2012.

Swimming Pool and Retail Association Australia (SPRAA) President, Peter Barr, says the registration of the specific occupation is due to his organisation's representation on the Construction and Property Services Industry Skills Council (CPSISC).

He says that while the job has been recorded in history dating back to when the Romans treated their bathing water with silver by-products, it had never been identified as a distinct occupation in Australia until the involvement of SPRAA.

"This recognition enables Swimming Pool and Spa Technicians to be positioned alongside other skilled industries and professionals," he says.

"A Swimming Pool and Spa Technician masters concepts including plumbing, electrical systems, pumps, motors and filtration, as well as having knowledge of water chemistry, water treatment and water hydraulics for large commercial pools."

In 2012, the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations' Job Guide will include this occupation. The Job Guide is a publication distributed to every Year 10 student in Australia prior to choosing their subjects for their senior school years and future career path.

Barr says research has shown that the Job Guide publication has a significant influence on career paths for young Australians.

"We expect the industry will benefit greatly from this recognition, which in the past has struggled to attract and retain young people because they were not aware that being a pool technician can be a worthwhile career with substantial financial and personal rewards.

He believes this will put the industry on an equal footing with other industries to attract school leavers.



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The **Zane Solar Gulfpanel** and the **Electroheat** heat pump not only enable you to save on your energy bills, you can extend your swim season conveniently and cost effectively.



The **BriteStream Multicoloured LED** lights not only look great, but they operate on a mere 15% of the electrical power required for the halogen equivalents.





Kurunda Klassic chips in for charity

MAGNAPOOL PUTS UP \$20,000 IN AID OF NORTH QUEENSLAND.

THE inaugural MagnaPool \$20,000 Kuranda Klassic charity event held in Cairns on August 12th was reportedly a smash hit for the Kuranda community and a great day in the sun.

The event was held at the Kuranda Aquatic Centre, home of the first commercial MagnaPool system. The pool gained a finalist position in the 2010 SPLASH! Environmental Awards for its environmental credentials, including its ability to save nearly 700,000L of backwash water each year.

MagnaPool builders and dealers from Australian and internationally gathered with the local community to raise much needed money for Far North Queensland charities, who are doing it tough after the devastation of Cyclone Yasi.

A large contingent of North Queensland's biggest charities rallied their supporters for a place in the main Kuranda Klassic race which consisted of the major prize pool of \$10,000.

The Kuranda Klassic finalists and charities represented included:

- Kathryn Kinneally (The Dr

Edward Koch Foundation)

- Kevin Murgatroyd (Still Birth & Neonatal Deaths Support)
- Peter Cox (Royal Lifesaving Society Far NQ Branch)
- Graham McCallum (Multiple Sclerosis Cairns)
- Larry Forsyth (RSCPA Cairns)
- Thelma Bryan (Far North QLD Hospital Foundation)
- Lianne Thomas (Far North QLD Hospital Foundation)
- Ted Bunt (Camp Quality FNQ)

For Kath Kinneally, the chance to compete for the Dr Edward Koch Foundation gave her a great personal kick, having recently spent months fundraising for her 19 year old daughter Saffron Bryant who needed a brain tumour removed.

Aged in his mid-70s, swimmer Graham McCallum said he felt like a spring chicken surrounded by 81-year-old Thelma Bryan and 79-year-old Kevin Murgatroyd. These competitors were champing at the bit to teach their younger counterparts a lesson and bring home the spoils for their chosen charity.

Shakeup in NSW planning

The NSW Government has announced the joint chairs of the first comprehensive review of the NSW planning system in more than 30 years. The review will be chaired by Senior Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court Tim Moore, and former NSW Minister, Ron Dyer. The review will begin with a listening and scoping stage to identify the key outcomes and principles for a new planning system, followed by preparation of an options paper and a white paper, which will set out the Government's new planning framework and draft legislation.

But the prize money belonged to Peter Cox, swimming for the Royal Life Saving Society, well known for their vital job educating, training and promoting water safety skills throughout Australia.

Five other races were swum on the day including two races for Community Service organisations with the local Ambulance and Kuranda Neighbourhood Centre each pocketing \$2000. The Celebrity Race was taken out by local luminary Marc Sleeman who nominated the Kuranda Community Centre as his beneficiary of a further \$2000. Northern Pride Rugby League represented with great honour and won the Sports Race donating their \$2000 to the Sam Faust Foundation for Leukemia. Rounding out the winners list was Luke McGarry from Channel 7 winning the Media Race to support Alzheimer's Australia with the final \$2000.

Even billionaires have to get their DAs

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council has ordered Solomon Lew and his daughter to demolish an \$80,000 swimming pool on a Mount Eliza property owned by the family company, according to the Sunday Age. The pool was reportedly built without planning permits, encroaches on Crown land and has structural problems.

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Lo-Chlor launches new website

LO-CHLOR Chemicals has announced the launch of revamped websites for Australia and the USA which can be found at either www.lochlor.com.au or www.lochlor.com respectively.

The new websites were designed and built by the company Go For Websites who were engaged by Lo-Chlor last year after being introduced at the SPLASH! Pool and Spa Trade Show on the Gold Coast.

“One of the advantages that Lo-Chlor found in using the Go For Websites team was that the directors have swimming pool backgrounds,” says Paul Simons of Lo-Chlor. “They were therefore conversant with what was required on the sites and were subsequently easy to

work with and forthcoming with many innovative ideas.”

The new websites have a new style and layout that make them more informative and easier to navigate for both trade and consumers. They contain information on Lo-Chlor products as well as a wealth of technical information on all facets of pool maintenance. The training section of the site contains facts and tips to help solve and prevent problems in both swimming pools and spas.

A full trial version of the company’s water analysis software is also available on the Australian site, so potential customers can download it to see if it meets their needs.

New Zealand pool shop wins Australasian franchisee award

NEW ZEALAND pool shop Swimart Pakuranga won the company’s 2011 Franchisee of the Year, beating more fancied operations from across the Tasman.

The award was presented by Swimart Ambassador and Olympic gold medal swimmer Susie O’Neill at the annual Swimart conference in Cairns at the end of July.

The awards were the culmination of a week of activities, workshops, and a conference as well as the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Waterco, Swimart’s parent company.

Swimart’s national manager, Chris Fitzmaurice says that it is an outstanding achievement by the New Zealand franchisees Jamie Spooner and Ricky-Ann Gold.

“The Swimart Pakuranga team has performed exceptionally over the past 12

months, and their exemplary standard of service, professionalism and customer care were key factors in winning so many awards,” he says.

Spooner says that he enjoys solving customers’ problems and helping them however he can. “We enjoy building the business and feel proud that we have grown it into one of the largest pool shops in New Zealand,” he says.

Fitzmaurice says it’s been a tough year for many in business, due to the unseasonal heavy rainfall and flooding that affected so many states in the peak operating period. “We commend our franchisees for pulling out all stops to make the most of a challenging time and operating to very high standards, despite various obstacles,” he says.

New national licensing body on its way

SYDNEY WILL BE HOME TO the new National Occupational Licensing Authority (NOLA) and a national search is underway for a CEO for the new organisation.

Federal Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations, Senator Chris Evans, NSW Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade and Investment, Andrew Stoner, and NSW Minister for Fair Trading, Anthony Roberts announced Sydney as the location for the new licensing authority.

The Council of Australian Governments in 2009 agreed to develop a national licensing system for specified occupations, to remove licensing inconsistencies across State and Territory borders and allow for a more mobile workforce.

Under the agreement, the national licensing system is underpinned by co-operative national legislation enacted by all jurisdictions.

Existing regulators will continue to be responsible for issuing licences and overseeing compliance by licensees. The new Authority will develop licensing policy and administer the national system.

Funding for the Authority is provided by all States and Territories, with NSW the largest contributor.

Roberts welcomes the announcement while outlining the occupations to be included in the new national licensing system.

“The new system will commence from 1 July 2012 for plumbing and gasfitting, electrical, refrigeration and air conditioning and property licensing, with more occupations including building and construction, to follow,” he says.

For more information about Fair Trading or NOLA visit the NSW Fair Trading website or www.nola.gov.au.

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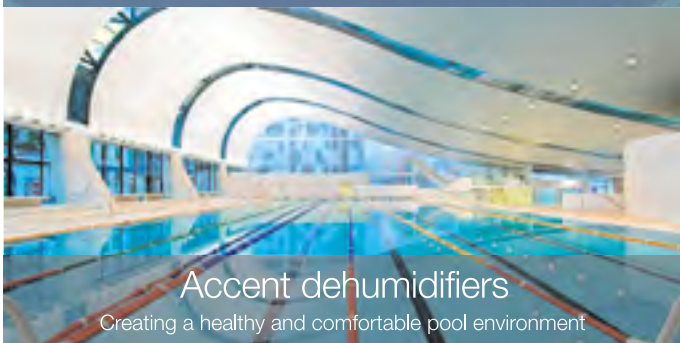
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Italian Pool Design

IL DESIGN DELLA PISCINA ITALIANA, OR THE ITALIAN DESIGN BOOK, AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND ITALIAN, IS A VISUAL TREAT.



ONE hundred and ninety two pages dedicated to designer Italian pools. This is the essence of Italian Pool Design (*Il design della piscina Italiana*), the latest release of the series by Editrice Il Campo dedicated to the contemporary pool in Italy.

Italian Pool Design pays homage to the beauty of a structure that can leave an impression on a space – either an architectural or natural one; landscape or residential.

Pools combine a complex weave of architecture, design, technology and competence. In many cases they represent true artistic expression. With the objective of showing the many faces of the contemporary Italian pool, the volume is divided into four sections: design, outdoor, indoor and natural.

The Design section looks not only at pool design, but also to the context in relation to the living space or the landscape. The Natural section focuses on style that integrates the pool construction harmoniously with the pre-existing natural surroundings.

The book is published by Editrice il Campo – publishers of Italian swimming pool quarterly *Piscine Oggi*, as well as *Il Nuovo Club* and *Home Wellness* magazine. They are the same people behind the Italian Piscina swimming pool show in Bologna. For more information or to buy a copy of the book go to www.ilcampo.it.



Ocean City by Arup; Team Members: Alanna Howe, Alexander Hespe. This work was part of the NOW and WHEN: Australian Urbanism exhibition recently shown at Surry Hills' Object Gallery in Sydney – a catalyst for debate on the future of our cities.

Industry calendar

FUTURE INDUSTRY DATES TO KEEP IN MIND



2011

Oct	12-14	World Aquatic Health Conference, Seattle
Oct	18-21	Piscina International Swimming Pool Show, Barcelona
Oct	26-29	Aquanale, Cologne, Germany
Nov	2-4	IPSPE, Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas
Nov	14-18	IAAPA Convention and Trade Show, Orlando, Florida
Nov	18	WA Sundowner
Dec	5-8	Canadian Pool & Spa Conference & Expo, Niagara Falls, Canada

2012

Feb	18-19	Pool Spa & Outdoor Living Expo, Rosehill Gardens, Sydney
Mar	7-9	National Drowning Prevention Symposium, San Diego
May	24-25	Landscape Expo, Perth
May	9-11	Building & Design Queensland, Brisbane from the 9th – 11th of
July	25-26	SPLASH! Pool and Spa Trade Show, Jupiters Gold Coast

2013

May	TBC	SPLASH! Asia Pool and Spa Trade Show, Singapore
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More details, dates and links are available at www.splashmagazine.com.au.

These dates are subject to change and should be checked with the relevant organisation. Please send calendar submissions to chrismaher@intermedia.com.au



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Development Application trends

EACH ISSUE, SPLASH! PUBLISHES DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION (DA) NUMBERS. THESE NUMBERS TEND TO BE ON THE LOW END OF THE SCALE OF ESTIMATES, BUT PROVIDE A VALUABLE INDICATION OF THE WAY THE MARKET TRENDED DURING THE REPORTED PERIOD.

THE swimming pool DA numbers up to July 2011 show a one per cent increase in the year-to-year figures. However, comparing the past two reported months of June and July 2011 with the same two months in 2010 shows a decrease of 18 per cent.

Comparisons by State show Queensland down by 40 per cent comparing the year-to-July 2011 figures with the preceding 12 months. These low figures seem to be on the back of the natural disasters that plagued Queensland over the past year.

New South Wales showed a 50 per cent increase over the 12-months. Victoria showed a seven per cent decline.

Other States pretty much held their own over the previous 12 months, with South Australia showing a decline of two per cent, and Western Australia a four per cent increase. Tasmania showed a large increase off a small base.

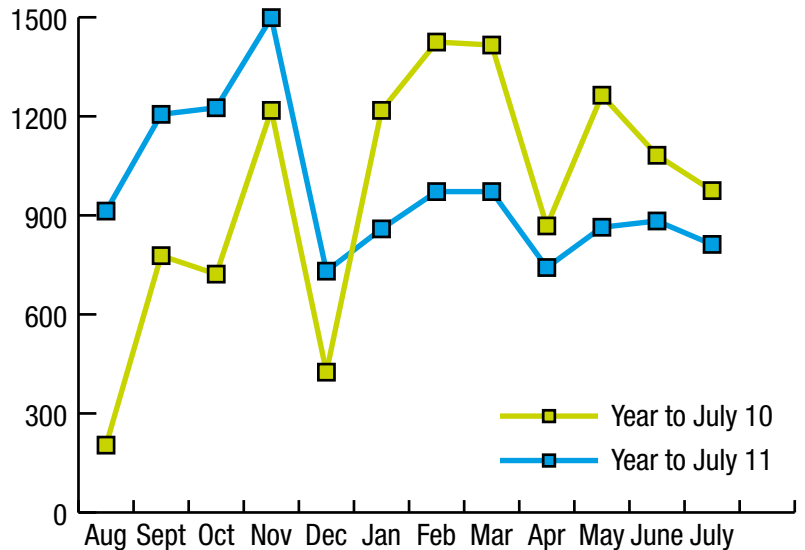
It should be taken into consideration that comparisons of DA numbers against other data indicate that some figures could be considerably higher – though they would not necessarily affect the comparison percentages.

Additionally, these figures would exclude most renovations, pool projects that are included as part of a new home, or smaller projects under the cost threshold – these projects are estimated to be an additional 30 per cent, meaning total numbers could be considerably higher than the quoted DA figures – by some estimates, they could be double.

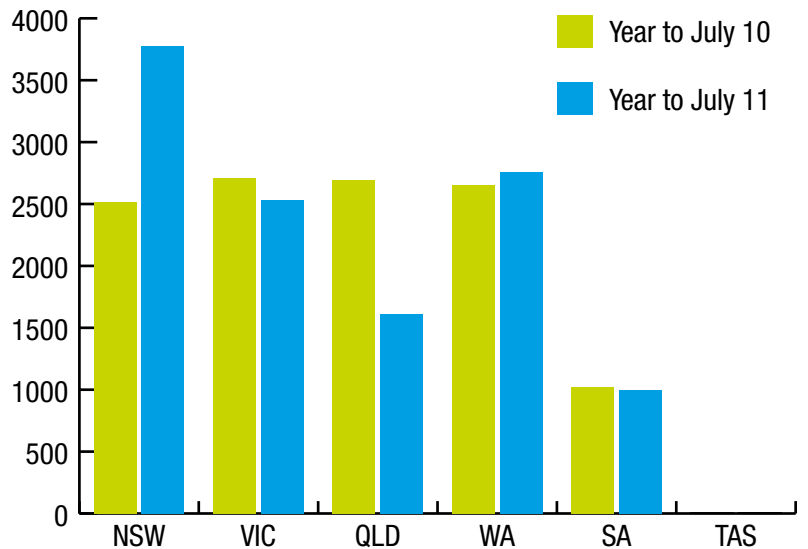
However, while these quoted figures may miss some swimming pools, spas and renovations, they do give an indication of how the market is trending.

For further information and more complete reports, contact Magdalene Miller from Cordell Information on 1800 80 60 60.

Comparison of Australian pool approvals Year-to-July 2011 with Year-to- July 2010. Green: Year-to- July 2010. Blue: Year-to- July 2011.



Pool Approvals by State Year-to-May 2010 and Year-to- July 2011. Green: Year-to- July 2010. Blue: Year-to- July 2011



Retail figures bounce 0.5 per cent

It appears that consumers are spending again as the Australian retail trade turnover rose 0.5 per cent in July 2011, following a 0.1 per cent fall in the previous month.

Reported by the ABS, the positive news was reflected by the rising turnover in other retailing (1.9 per cent), department stores (1.2 per cent), cafes, restaurants and takeaway

food services (1.1 per cent) and food retailing (0.8 per cent).

Additionally, the ABS reported that trend turnover rose 0.1 per cent in July 2011. This follows a rise of 0.1 per cent in June 2011 and a rise of 0.2 per cent in May 2011. Trend turnover rose 1.5 per cent in July 2011 compared with July 2010.



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Around the globe

TORONTO POOLS UNDER INVESTIGATION

ACCORDING to the Toronto Star, public swimming pools in that city have racked up more than 10,000 code violations. The pools in question cover schools, hotels, strata units and health clubs. One prestigious private school in particular had more than 100 violations.

On the back of the newspaper's investigation, safety experts are now calling for more formalised and standardised training of pool operators, with the state health minister considering a certification program for pool operators. Tom Lachocki, CEO of the US-based National Swimming Pool Foundation, has come out in favour of certification, saying that if the pools are not properly maintained they can become a health risk, and it's essential to have a minimum training requirement.

SWISS BUY ARCH

THE Lonza Group, a Swiss pharmaceutical and chemical company, is in the process of buying US-based international Arch Chemicals, producer of chemicals for the municipal water and food processing industries, as well as commercial and residential swimming pools. Global pool brands include Baquacil, Baquaspa, Being, Brilliance, HTH, Poolife, Pool Breeze and Pulsar. Lonza had previously owned BioLab before selling the business to Great Lakes in 1991.

FLUIDRA EXPANDS IN SOUTH AFRICA

ASTRALPOOL'S parent company, Fluidra, has opened a branch in Cape Town, South Africa's second largest financial hub. This branch comes in addition to facilities (offices and warehouse) that the group has in the north of the country, near Johannesburg, and will allow it to further its expansion into the African continent.

With a population of around 49 million and a surface area of more than a million square kilometres, South Africa is Africa's industrial market leader. Fluidra's strategy consists in using South Africa as a gateway to other sub-Saharan countries such as Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Angola, Zimbabwe and Zambia, as well as the Indian Ocean islands of Mauritius and Madagascar. Fluidra already has a presence in Morocco, Nigeria and Egypt.

NUCLEAR CONTAMINATION AFFECTS JAPANESE POOLS

TYPICAL contaminated pool water might be difficult enough, but spare a thought for pool owners in the Fukushima prefecture, Japan. The Mainichi Daily News reports that radiation following the reactor meltdown has contaminated school pool water, leaving hundreds of schools in the position where they cannot use the pools, and cannot drain the water.

While one-third of the 735 school pools in the prefecture can be drained through the sewage system, the rest must be drained directly into agricultural waterways or rivers. Farmers have been reluctant to give their consent. In the cities of Date and Minamisoma, zeolite has been used to decontaminate radioactive water, but the cost has been reportedly tens of thousands of Australian dollars per pool.



INDIA HAS FIRST POOL SHOW

THE inaugural Waves International Exhibition & Conference held in New Delhi has been hailed a success. The organisers say the event garnered 1400 visitors from the subcontinent and beyond, including Australia, USA, Germany, France, Spain and the Middle East.

Sonny Sharma, CEO and Editor of Waves Magazine says the goal of the event was to create a platform for the Indian industry. "I believe we achieved that. The wet wellness sector of India is a burgeoning industry in its infancy and we hope to continue connecting and educating the market."

As well as the show floor, the conference program included seminars and workshops from representatives of

AstralPool (Spain), Spa World (Australia), AquaCal Heat Pumps (USA), Hayward Pool Products (USA), Suncoast Solar (USA), Zodiac (Australia) and Waterco (Australia).

PISCINA MOST INTERNATIONAL

THIS year's Piscina BCN held in Barcelona Spain, is being hailed as the most international of the events, with 65 per cent of exhibitors coming from outside Spain, including from other European countries, the USA, Asia and Australia. Side events this year include: the sustainable swimming pool of the future; the rehabilitation and renovation of concrete swimming pools; automation; and safety.

AQUANALE GOES NATURAL

THE fourth Cologne Swimming Pool and Wellness Forum, to be held as part of Aquanale on October 27 & 28 in Germany, will focus on the increasing popularity of natural pools and swimming ponds, as well as looking at pool safety and modern marketing tools for public swimming pools. The forum will provide visitors with information on current themes and trends, and is geared to both the public and private swimming pool markets. A simultaneous translation into English will be provided for the whole proceedings. For more information visit www.aquanale.com.

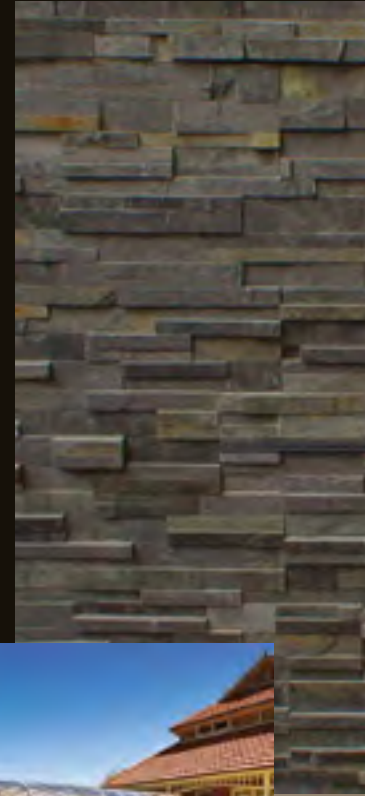
ICEMAN COMETH TO COOL POOLS

IT gets hot in Texas. So hot, you need to cool backyard pools as much as possible. KXAN Texas has reported that ice sculptor Franko Camargo has started a new line – creating ice sculptures specifically for swimming pools. Not only does it get the pool nice and cool for mid-summer parties, but it also adds an interesting custom-made feature – at least until it melts.

UK LAUNCHES POOL HELP WEBSITE

AN English company has launched an online pool assistant: www.helpwithmypool.com. It is a web-based concept aiming to provide pool owners with independent knowledge. For a monthly fee of \$12, pool owners can receive answers to their pool-related questions.

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Queenslanders to save on POOL PUMP RUNNING COSTS

The Queensland Government is helping pool owners connect to cheaper tariffs and buy multi-speed or variable drive pool pumps.

Queensland Minister for Energy Stephen Robertson has announced a major new incentive program to help Ergon Energy customers improve their pool's energy efficiency and reduce their electricity running costs.

The Pool Pump Energy Efficiency Program (PPEEP) offers incentives to residential pool owners to assist in connecting pool pumps to the cheaper Tariff 33 via a standard socket or, if not suitable, install a more energy efficient variable or multi-speed drive pool pump system.

Robertson says both options could bring about significant savings to the electricity costs associated with running a pool while also helping to tackle peak demand.

"Under the program, Ergon Energy customers can receive up to \$350 for connecting pool pumps to Tariff 33 electricity via a standard power point," he says.

"Alternatively, an incentive payment of \$250 is available to pool owners who purchase a variable or multi-speed drive pool pump, which must be at least 60 per cent more energy efficient than standard fixed-speed pool pumps."

Robertson says the incentive program has been introduced to coincide with recent changes which allow pool filtration systems to be connected to Tariff 33 via a standard power point.

"Previously, pool pumps had to be hard-wired to Tariff 33, making repairs done by a licensed electrician an expensive exercise," he says. "The introduction of the new reforms should now prompt many pool owners to review how their pool pump is set up.

"About 95 per cent of the 10,000 new pools built in Queensland each year are connected to the continuous supply Tariff 11, which can cost a household about \$550 a year in electricity to run. Connecting to off-peak Tariff 33 reduces electricity costs, providing typical savings of over \$235 a year."

Robertson says peak electricity demand (generally 4pm to 8pm each day) is a key driver of network infrastructure upgrades and associated increases in electricity prices.

"The introduction of these new changes to pool pumps will help ensure peak demand is managed more efficiently by taking pressure off the grid," he says.

Melbourne gets sustainable finance

The Sustainable Melbourne Fund (SMF) is in the midst of supporting delivery of a world-first environmental upgrade finance mechanism as part of the City of Melbourne's 1200 Buildings program. SMF Chairman Robert Jamieson says that environmental upgrade finance will enable the commercial property sector to overcome a major barrier to becoming sustainable – accessing capital to finance environmental improvements.

"Sustainable Melbourne Fund makes it easier for building owners to access funding for environmental upgrades and can provide finance for environmental projects currently not available from traditional financiers," he says.

Victoria's Building and Plumbing Industry Commissioner Tony Arnel and PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia (PwC) Partner Liza Maimone have recently been appointed to Sustainable Melbourne Fund's independent Board of Trustees.

Getting connected

Tariff 33 is significantly cheaper than the normal, domestic Tariff 11, and supply is still available for at least 18 hours a day.

Dependent upon where you live and the peak times of energy used in your area, electricity supply may not be available though Tariff 33 between 6am and 9am and 5pm and 9pm.

Ergon Energy will be making regional times of Tariff 33 electricity supply to pools available to customers to help manage pools appropriately.

To take advantage of the new changes to Tariff 33 pool pump socket connections, the pool filtration socket outlet will need to be installed by a licensed electrical contractor and connected to a dedicated circuit.

Existing pool owners should obtain a quote from a licensed electrical contractor to switch over. The cost will vary depending on how the pool circuit is currently connected.

The minimum cost for connecting a pool pump to Tariff 33 – when the pool is first built – could be as little as \$100. Owners of new pools will likely recoup this investment within six months of connection to the tariff.

Those choosing to purchase a variable or multi-speed drive pool pump system should


expect to pay between \$800 and \$2000 fully installed, though it does depend on the system purchased and there are some more expensive pumps available.

Variable speed drive pump systems work by automatically adjusting the pump to the lowest practical speed for the function it is performing to minimise its energy use. Multi-speed pump systems are manual versions where the user selects a speed (usually one of three) to effectively perform the function required. In their lowest speed modes both types of pump require far less electricity than standard pool pumps.

Pool owners are invited to take advantage of one option or both, though only one incentive can be claimed per property.

Both incentives have been made available from September 1, 2011, as long as proof of purchase and installation can be verified.

For more information about Ergon Energy's Pool Pump Energy Efficiency Program and how to take part visit www.ergon.com.au or phone 13 10 46.

To learn more about the State Government's new pool pump reforms go to the Office of Clean Energy's website www.cleanenergy.qld.gov.au. 

New agreement a boost to green collar skills

A new agreement between the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) and Australian Institute of Architects is set to boost the construction industry's green collar skills.

The two organisations have signed a memorandum of understanding which will deliver cross-accreditation of courses, events and activities that promote sustainability in the built environment.

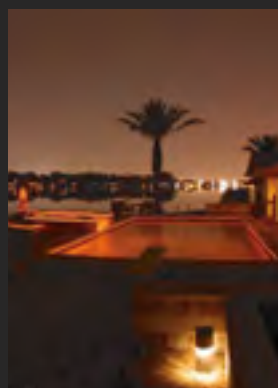
Architects will receive recognition for green skills education and training they undertake with the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programs of either organisation.

"Green jobs are the jobs of the future. Sustainability skills should be embedded in all jobs in all sectors of Australia's economy, but particularly in the property and construction industry, which has an unrivalled opportunity to reduce carbon emissions and water use, while supporting the growth of new, low-carbon industries," says GBCA CEO Romilly Madew.

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Coroner says unflued gas pool heater killed guard

The NSW Coroner has recommended an information campaign for building managers, strata managers and owners corporations after an inquest into the 2002 death of a Sydney security guard from carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

The gas water heater servicing the gym's pool in the Pyrmont unit block where the security guard worked was not flued and ventilation to the gym was sealed to prevent the ingress of cold air and debris.

NSW Fair Trading Minister Anthony Roberts says that carbon monoxide is colourless, odourless and tasteless and as a result, people will be unaware of its presence and could quickly become overwhelmed.

"Heaters designed to be installed and operated outside can be dangerous if they are installed in enclosed spaces. Adherence to the regulations and Australian Standards regarding the installation, storage and handling of gas heaters and gas water heaters is a matter of life and death."

The Minister said the major danger asso-

ciated with all gas heaters used in enclosed or confined spaces was when ventilation was poor or obstructed and poisonous fumes such as carbon monoxide could be forced back into rooms.

All gas water heaters are required to be fitted with a flue vented to the outside of a building to prevent products of combustion entering buildings.

The security guard, Janesh Dani, died in 2002 after a routine night shift working at reception and performing patrols around the apartment block. Those patrols included the roof terrace, stairwells, basement car park, and gymnasium and spa pool.

His body was found the next day on the floor of the gymnasium. An autopsy found that the cause of Dani's death was CO poisoning. He was found to have a CO blood concentration of 66 per cent – well into the fatal range.

There were only two possible sources by

which CO could have entered the gymnasium. Those were exhaust from motor vehicles using the basement car park and a gas heater that was used to heat the water in the pool spa that was located on the premises.

Investigators found no reason to suspect that

motor vehicle exhaust from the car park was the source of the CO.

By coincidence, the day after Mr Dani's

death and without knowledge of his death, a gas plumber attended the premises and replaced a faulty ignition module and a worn igniter assembly of the heater. On leaving the building, the plumber spoke to the building manager advising her that in his opinion the site in which the heater was located was not compliant with gas safety requirements. He recorded his opinion on his invoice and his observation provided the clue that directed the later police investigation.

"Heaters designed to be installed and operated outside can be dangerous if they are installed in enclosed spaces."



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Is this an answer to the toe-hold question?

Queensland-based pool safety inspection organisation, The Big Tick, thinks they may have come up with the answer to the problem of toe holds around swimming pools – especially where they relate to garden taps and outdoor electrical outlets.

Recent legislative changes have resulted in a clamp-down on potential safety hazards in and around swimming pools.

Helen Smith, manager of The Big Tick, says the new Queensland legislation prohibits anything longer or wider than 10mm, as it's considered a toe-hold that a child may use to climb a fence.

She says she's received enquiries from owners of swimming pools at residential properties, hotels, motels and serviced apartments, who were struggling to find solutions for power points, taps, gas fittings and pump switches.

"If any of these objects are within 900mm of the fence on the outside or within 300mm on the inside of the fence (if vertical gaps exceed 10mm) many customers are having to get a one-off fitting made. It's costly and it can

be difficult to find someone to do it," she says.

Smith said she and her team decided to develop a series of products designed to comply with AS1926.1-2007 section 2.3.5. The clear covers are on a 60-degree angle to cover taps, power points and other objects so they can prevent young children using them to gain access to the swimming pool area.

"Since we launched the product range, the items have been incredibly popular with pool owners, pool safety inspectors, pool maintenance companies, electricians, as well as both pool and hardware stores," she says.

"The only two parts of the standard that are relevant are that it must be on a 60 degree or greater angle (which it is); and that it can withstand a 250N & a 330N force without shock – this force equates to about a 25 kilogram and a 33 kilogram weight – to ensure that it does not break, fracture or become permanently deformed.

"We have done numerous in-house tests with this and the product can withstand in excess of 60kg applied to it repeatedly



without damage. In other words, it takes my weight without any problems."

For more information go to www.thebigtick.com.au.

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Industry moves

CHANGES AT FOCUS



Shawn Scurrah

FOCUS Products has appointed Shawn Scurrah as National Sales Manager. He previously led record sales growth as State Sales Manager for Victoria and the move is timed to coincide with the development of Focus's equipment range.

Scurrah will be responsible for overseeing the national sales team and sales development and will soon relocate to Focus's head office in Brisbane. Lauren Humphris will remain as Sales Director and will continue to manage the strategic planning and oversee the marketing and product development of the company.

Focus has also welcomed back Ben Langley. He was their first full time employee who, after spending six years in the company as a driver and warehouse supervisor, decided to venture out to widen his skills by successfully starting up his own small business. He now brings the life and business skills he has learnt back to Focus in his new role as warehouse manager for their Brisbane operation.

Tess Schembri, who is currently the Retail Business Manager and Territory Manager for Southern Brisbane, Gold Coast, Northern New South Wales and South-Western Queensland has decided to take an internal administration role within the company. The new role will assist New Zealand Business Development Manager, Vanessa Bradley in growing the New Zealand market. Schembri has been a valuable member of the sales team for the past four years and is sure to continue to be as valuable as part of the administration team for many years to come. Her new role will involve the administration and sales support of New Zealand and Victoria along with general

office duties and she will be helping with customer evenings, pool schools, staff training and retailing support.

The move has given Focus the opportunity to progress Nicole Parfitt into a new position as Territory Manager for this area. Nicole has been with the company for more than four years now and has managed PVC purchases and deliveries and has been the internal support for Victoria. In this time, she has developed a great chemical and technical knowledge and has been taking technical calls and writing for the Focus magazine Balance.

For more information on any of these moves contact Focus Products head office on 1300 136 287.

SPASA QUEENSLAND FINDS NEW SECRETARY

THE search for a replacement for retiring David Close is over. The Swimming Pool and Spa Association of Queensland has appointed Adrian Hart Secretary Elect, with a view to him taking over as Secretary/CEO in January 2012.

Hart was previously Executive Director of the Master Plumbers Association of Queensland, and has had considerable experience in building industry trade associations since 1988. In all, 14 applications were received.

"The quality of the applicants was surprisingly good," says Close. "They were all either executives or directors of non-profit organisations in the building industry."

Hart will start on October 10, 2011. Following an induction period, he will take over as Secretary in January 2012. At that time Close will step down, returning to work in an advisory capacity, three days per week.

Hart says SPASA's various trades such as builders, manufacturers and installers will benefit from his industry experience and knowledge.

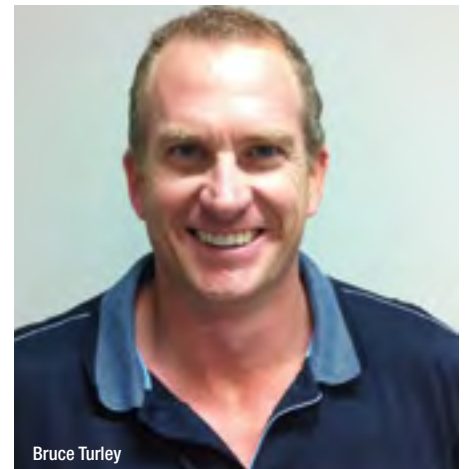
"What's more, my involvement in member communications, public relations and government lobbying will ensure consumers are provided with the latest and most comprehensive information and advice," he says.

"At Master Plumber's, as a result of my efforts, membership grew from 420 to over 1200 members. Furthermore under my lead, management enhanced

the state-wide focus of MPAQ membership representation. It is no secret that the backbone of any association is its members – consequently this was a real triumph for me professionally."

Hart says that during his tenure, major changes internally and externally saw the Master Plumbers increase in total capital and reserves from \$284,589 to more than \$2,600,000.

NEW PEOPLE AT POOLRITE



Bruce Turley

BRUCE Turley has returned to the pool industry as Queensland Branch Manager for Poolrite. He started in the industry in 1998 as customer service representative with Clearwater, servicing south east Queensland. When Zodiac acquired Clearwater in 2000, he became an account manager, and by 2003 was State Manager. In 2006 he moved to the national sales manager's role, but left the industry in 2008.

"I am so excited to be back in the industry, working for a company that has such innovation and a strong focus on delivering great customer service," he says.

Milton Bennett has been appointed General Manager for New Zealand. Prior to coming to Poolrite, he was the Regional Manager for ITT Water and Waste Water Ltd – a large multinational with about 40,000 employees globally. Their core products were based around the transport and treatment of water and wastewater, including the submersible pump brand Flygt – all products were manufactured in Germany and Sweden. During the two and a half years he was at ITT, Bennett had full responsibility for New Zealand and the Pacific Island regions. Prior to that, he had national sales roles in building and construction supply companies.

WA SPA MANUFACTURER FOR SALE

JOINTLY operated spa manufacturers Sunset Coast Spas & Barrier Reef Spas are for sale. The owner of both enterprises, Brian Williamson, is keen to pursue a business opportunity in southwest WA that will allow him and his wife to move into semi-retirement.

All interest in the companies is for sale including intellectual property, websites, plant and stock free of encumbrance. The company has many years as a manufacturer of quality Australian spas and swim spas, and has recently launched a range of courtyard pools.

"All staff entitlements, taxes and creditors either have been or will be paid, so the company will remain free of any debts, leases, staff entitlements or blots on its reputation of any kind," says Williamson. He has also reduced the staff level to a minimum, with only key people left.

The businesses and assets are being offered for tender as a whole, but if not sold together he will consider offers on any portion separately.

He also owns the factory premises, which are listed for sale separately but would be available to the business purchaser for sale or lease should they wish to continue the operation from the same address, although this is not a condition of the purchase of the business.

A list of plant, stock etc is available on request. The stock consists mainly of a large quantity of acrylic, spa components and many completed or nearly completed spas that would be completed prior to sale. For more information or to arrange an inspection, call Brian Williamson on 0418 95 96 97.

JAYMAC GOES GOLD

JAYMAC'S international head office has moved to the Gold Coast. With continued growth in Europe and strong foundations throughout Australia and New Zealand, Jaymac has moved to larger premises.



"Our Europe sales are growing due to the success of our overseas distributor winning awards using our Remote Maxichem Extreme Series Pool Management Systems," says Glen Rose.

"The new premises allow our manufacturing section to be expanded and create jobs in the area. We still have strong support for our pool cleaner, chlorinator, pump and filter ranges; and new products are being sourced or manufactured for release during this coming season."

The new details are: Unit 2/475 Scottsdale Drive, Varsity Lakes, Queensland 4227. Postal address: PO Box 2977 Burleigh BC, Queensland 4220, Phone: (07) 5522 0771

NZ DISTRIBUTOR FOR GLOW AND FLOW

POOLSTORE International of Auckland, New Zealand has been appointed national distributor of the whole range Glow Flow swimming pool lights. Poolstore International is located at 368 Neilson Street, Onehunga, Auckland. Call 64_9 634 5842 for more information.

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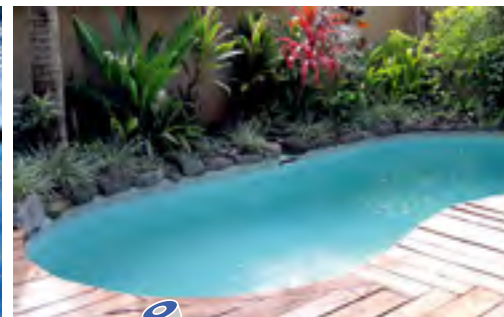
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SPLASH! New Zealand overcomes wild Wellington weather to post positive show

The first ever SPLASH! event in New Zealand's capital, Wellington, proved to be a success despite the worst weather to hit the city in 75 years.



The intimate nature of the Wellington show meant there was plenty of time for getting to understand new products and ideas



Wellington was a great meeting place for friends in the industry

Held in conjunction with the New Zealand Recreation Association's (NZRA) annual conference Just Add Water Seminar (JAWS), the 2011 edition of SPLASH! New Zealand had a more commercial focus, providing an excellent venue for networking between segments of the commercial market and the aquatics industry.

"This year's SPLASH! New Zealand was always intended to be a more intimate event, and had a stronger focus on the commercial and aquatics sector than our usual shows," says Simon Cooper, Director of Interpoint events and organiser of SPLASH! New Zealand.

"The dramatic weather events did affect some visitor turnout – nonetheless, the show was a success. I think co-locating with JAWS worked really well for both our events."

A cold blast from the Antarctic saw temperatures plummet below zero, with snow covering Wellington for the first time in 40 years, blocking many access roads into the city. The airport was closed for extended periods and many flights were delayed or cancelled. Not the best weather for a show – nonetheless, the industry turned up for this important showcase.

Hugh Smith of gold sponsor Pentair Water Pool & Spa, says he was pleasantly surprised by the activity at the show. "It started a bit on the slow side and I am sure that was due to the weather, but as the first day wore on many folks braved the weather and came by. The second day was great. I am sure this was due in part to the attendance of the JAWS group, but overall I was pleasantly surprised and happy we contributed."

Steve Budden, of silver sponsor Filtermaster said that the willingness of staff to

help in every way contributed to the event being as successful as it was. "We have several new companies to follow up on next week – all for new business, which is great!"

Alison Law, Aquatics Project Manager at the NZRA says that JAWS celebrated its 50th birthday in style.

"Thanks to record delegate numbers and a strong partnership with the SPLASH! Pool and Spa Trade Show, JAWS 2011 was one of our most successful events," she says.

The SPLASH! seminars included pre-show workshops with Paul Jacobson covering The Importance of Water Balance, The Importance of Healthy Water to the Overall Swimming Experience, and Problem Solving – Algae and Scale/Metal Staining.

Lindsay McGrath presented Establishing a National Body for the NZ Pool and Spa Aftermarket Industry; Paul Jacobson presented Making the Most of Water Chemistry in Times of Climatic and Environmental Change, What Makes Treating Spa Water Different to Pool Water, and More Regular Oxidation – Why?; while Hugh Smith presented Green Equipment for the Green Consumer for Maximum Profits, and Hydraulics and Pump Selection.

Dr Ole Gronborg came all the way from Denmark (via Swim Australia's Better Water Series in Brisbane and Sydney – see page 74 for more information on his presentation). He presented the extremely interested Reducing Chloramines and THMs in Indoor Swimming Pools, and answered questions about possible solutions to the problem of disinfection by products.

Graeme Abbot talked about Driving Customer Growth Through Innovation and



Checking out pool covers



Given the cool weather, pool enclosures were a hot topic at the South Pacific stand



Discovering filtration innovations at the Waterco stand



Hugh Smith explaining the intelligent control systems behind one of Pentair's pumps

Investment at Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools and Spa; and Max Williams presented Pool Shops, Marketing and the Internet.

The next SPLASH! Pool and Spa Trade Show will be on the Gold Coast, July 25 and 26, 2012, followed by SPLASH! Asia in Singapore, May 2013.

You never know what you find when you start digging a pool. This iron age skeleton was found at the site of the London 2012 Olympic Pool



UNBURIED Treasures

Christina DiMartino digs up some dirt on the amazing things pool builders find when they begin excavating.

People and animals live, die and are buried. Over millennia, the earth shifts, civilisations, along with possessions, disappear beneath the soil. Cultures change and new populations build on top of those who lived thousands of years earlier.

That's the way life and death goes in nearly every part of the world.

Then along comes a pool builder. He digs, hoping that he won't unearth problems such as buried water, gas or electrical lines that will delay construction and cause extra expense.

"Prior to starting to dig, I always ask my client a question," says Brian Van Bower,

president of Aquatic Consultants, Inc. in Miami, Florida, and a partner in the Genesis 3 Design Group. "If I find a box of buried gold while we're digging in your yard, who does it belong to?' They always respond by saying that it's their property, so obviously the treasure would be theirs. I then tell them that if we find water, gas or other problematic issues, those too belong to them."

But unearthing animal skeletons, ancient coins, artefacts or other antiquities can be just as problematic. In many countries such as Italy, Greece and Egypt, unearthing antiquities can bring any type of construction to an imme-

diately halt, sometimes for years. Governmental antiquities' ministries and departments in most countries exercise the Memorandum of Understanding, or MOU law. In brief, it means that when antiquities are discovered, even on private property, the items automatically become the property of the state.

MOU also establishes agreements between countries that help prevent antiquities being exported.

Circumstances usually call for an archaeological dig to unearth all findings, and eventually construction goes on as planned, even if it's months or years later,

which can be a nightmare scenario for pool builders and clients alike.

Greek law, for example, states that any person who finds or acquires possession of a movable ancient monument dating up to 1453 shall declare it without undue delay to the nearest archaeological, police or port authority and shall make it available to them. While rewards are granted to the finder, if the site where the item was discovered is deemed archeologically important, you would likely have to throw in the proverbial towel on digging the pool, at least for a while.

Italy's law is similar, as are the laws of the majority of other European Union nations. Italian law also states that finders must report all finds, and that following an opinion by the Minister of Culture Council, a permit for possession of an ancient movable monument, the ownership of which belongs to the State, may be granted to a natural or legal person.

Slow moving government, time-costing processes and ongoing delays in determin-



Mastodon tooth found in a pool dig. Photos courtesy of the Pink Palace Museum

“In Italy, Greece and Egypt, it can bring construction to an immediate halt.”

ing if the site is of antiquity value is frustrating to private landowners. The consequence is that, more times than not, they refuse to report the finding and instead share the proceeds of whatever is found with the contractor doing the digging, a situation that is known as “nighthawking.”

This occurs all over the world today, and laws are in place in nearly every country to help prevent nighthawking. Although you can hardly blame a landowner for not wanting government agencies, United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, commonly known as UNESCO, the International Foundation for Art Research—common name IFAR—or other agencies from invading their property and holding up construction of a pool or other development project.

In Australia, your local State Museum is the first port of call (see box).

In the United States, however, antiquities found on private property are owned by the property owner. There are some exceptions, such as when human body parts are discovered.

Despite believing that private property rights are a good thing, there is another way of viewing the inference. Cultural remains found on private land can teach us more about ancient civilisations that lived or travelled through those areas, and that benefits society as a whole. Just because something is found on private property, it doesn't mean it should not be recorded



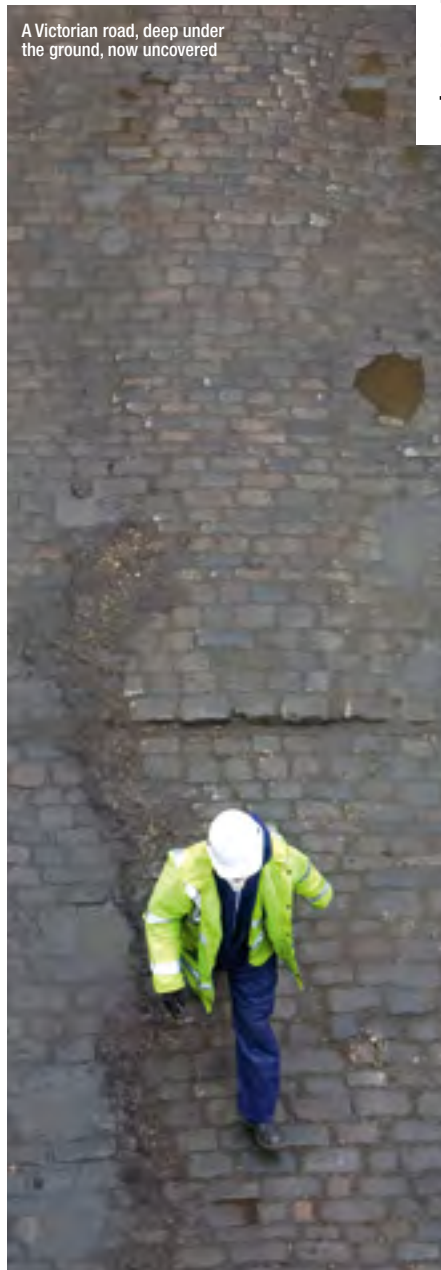
Skeletons unearthed at the London site



A complete 19th century boat used for hunting wild fowl on the River Lea



A Roman coin found at the London site



A Victorian road, deep under the ground, now uncovered

and studied before it is mounted on someone's wall, hastily put up for sale or for the earth to be scathed in a rushed effort to get the pool built.

Olympic discovery

Construction on Olympic Park in London, United Kingdom, host of the 2012 Summer Olympic Games, began several years ago. In early 2009, curious findings, including a 4000-year-old flint axe head, while digging the pool initiated an archaeological investigation at the site.

The project is being operated and overseen by the Museum of London and the Olympic Delivery Authority. It is the largest archaeological survey ever conducted in the country, with more than 140 trenches dug over the 2.5 square-kilometre area.

The investigation team discovered pieces dating back over the centuries showing that the site has been settled and used for thousands of years.

Amongst the discoveries were four prehistoric skeletons buried around an iron age settlement area, a Roman coin and river walls, medieval and Neolithic pottery, Second World War gun emplacements and a complete 19th century boat



Gomphotherium (mastodon) fossil.
Photos courtesy of the Pink Palace Museum

used for hunting wild fowl on the River Lea. Chairman of the ODA, John Armit, says that it has been a huge logistical exercise to detail the past of the Olympic Park to enable the "big build" of the venues and infrastructure to start on track. "Archaeologists

and local people have had the opportunity to learn more about the development of Lower Lea Valley and the people who have lived here for thousands of years before it is transformed for future generations." The Museum of London is documenting



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all of the findings in a publication which is expected to extend into two volumes.

Senior archaeologist of the Museum of London Archaeology, Kieron Tyler, says "As our analysis progresses, an exciting new story is beginning to emerge. We now know that the Olympic Park area was settled and utilised continuously from the prehistoric period onwards. These people lived and died here. This new story of the Lea Valley is London before London; a previously unknown London."

The Museum is hosting an archaeological program of talks, community events and roadshows to share the artefacts and information about the people who lived in the area throughout the centuries.

A horror story that lives on

In March 1981, Sam and Judith Haney bought what they thought would be their dream house in Crosby, near Houston, Texas. But it quickly turned into a nightmare when they began to dig a swimming pool in their backyard.

It so happens that during construction of the house, someone told the contractor of the development, US Atlantic Corp, which was later sold to Purcell Company, that

there was at least one grave on the land.

When the field superintendent examined the site, he saw a stick with a cross on it. The area had a short fence around it. He told the tractor operator to haul the debris away.

In April 1983, the Haney's began digging the hole for their swimming pool. One of their neighbours had told them there might be a grave in the vicinity. They found two graves in their backyard during the dig. Purcell Company moved the bodies, on its own initiative and at its expense. In February 1984, the Haney's filed a lawsuit against Purcell. Mr Haney developed diabetes in August 1986, which he attributed to the mental trauma he suffered as a result of discovering the graves. After a jury verdict, the trial court rendered a take-nothing judgment in Purcell's favour.

But the Haney story didn't end there. The horrifying discovery that their home rested on top of an old African-American burial ground was made more horrid when frightening, unexplainable things began to occur. Disembodied voices disturbed their sleep, and one night Mrs Haney was awakened when an unplugged clock in the bedroom began shooting sparks and giving off an eerie glow. Other strange

happenings, like locked doors mysteriously opening on their own, and possessions gone missing that were later found outside.

The Haney's weren't alone in their horror. Neighbours whose houses also rested on top of the graveyard also reported strange, unsettling happenings.

Determined to learn more, the Haney's researched the cemetery and learned that it was called Black Hope, and that the last burial there had taken place in 1939. They also discovered that as many as 60 people had been interred in the graveyard, some of whom were former slaves.

Plagued with guilt for desecrating their graves, the Haney's made the decision to rebury the bodies in their own backyard. They have since moved from the area, and are living happy, normal lives today.

Ice age tools

While digging a fish pond in densely populated Boulder, Colorado in 2008, landscapers discovered a cache of more than eighty-three 13,000-year old tools used by ice-age hunters known as the Clovis people, hunter-gatherers who remain a puzzle to

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WWII helmets uncovered at the London site

“The bones belonged to a mastadon that stood eight feet tall and weighed two tonnes.”

In June 2009, The Sentinel-Standard, a Michigan newspaper, reported

and weighed as much as two tonnes. Leyden planned to donate the fossils to the Pink Palace Museum.

Leyden’s mastodon wasn’t the first one found while digging for a pool in the United States.

that contractors for the Schneider family in Portland, Michigan, were digging for a pool when they unearthed a mastodon femur.

The femur was the first of dozens of complete bones and fragments to come out of the site. The Schneiders also found a complete rib and several intact wrist bones, in addition to tusk parts and leg bones.

They contacted Dan Fisher, professor of ecology, evolutionary biology and palaeontology at the University of Michigan, to confirm their find.

Fisher told the Sentinel-Standard, “It’s unusual in the lifetime of any individual to come in contact with this kind of find. We’re very happy to be notified of this site and to be working with the Schneiders. It’s exciting.”

Fisher estimates the unearthed bones are between 10,000 and 13,000 years old, and come from a 35-year-old animal. He also guessed that this mastodon did not die of natural causes, but was likely slaughtered by early Native Americans, and that the bones were the result of them trying to preserve excess meat in a pond.

The Schneiders decided to donate the bones to the University of Michigan, Museum of Paleontology, after keeping them for a short while. The Museum will try to recreate the animal.

The Schneiders are withholding their contact information due to the attention the discovery could attract.

A pool where a pool used to be

Waterloo, Ontario, Canada resident, David Hobson, is the author of several books on gardening, including *Diary of a Mad Gardener*; To boldly grow where no one has grown before, and keeper of David Hobson’s Garden Humour website at www.gardenhumor.com.

Visitors to the site are invited to share their personal stories on his “Things I Found Buried in my Garden” page.

One contributor, named Lazlo, tells this story: “I was quite proud of the amount of rocks including two ‘boulders’ I dug out and managed to roll to the corners of my front lawn where I left them as ornaments because they

anthropologists. The home’s owner, Patrick Mahaffy, thought they were only a century or two old before contacting researchers at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Douglas Bamforth, a professor in the anthropology department of UC, led a study of the find. He said his “jaw just dropped” when he first saw the artefacts.

“The owner called us within 24 hours because he recognised that they were artefacts,” says Bamforth. “I went the next day. They had rinsed them off and they were sitting on the back step. I quickly recognized that the material came from the other side of the state, or even as far away as Utah, which meant that these people walked really long distances as hunters and gatherers.

“Boulder is a densely populated area, and in the midst of all that to find this cache is amazing,” Bamforth says. “The cache is one of only a handful of Clovis-age artefacts uncovered in North America.

Bamforth says that the tools reveal an unexpected level of sophistication. He described the tool designs as “unnecessarily complicated, and at the same time, artistic and utilitarian.”

“Pat Mahaffy has been very cooperative and helpful,” Bamforth says. “We sent the collection out for forensic testing. The lab took all 83 artefacts and found four with detectable protein. One had been used on mountain sheep and goats, one on bear meat, and other two were used on camels and horses. We know they were Clovis people because the only time camels were in this region prior to this century was at the end of the last ice age.”

The artefacts are currently in Bamforth’s laboratory, and Mahaffy has donated them to the Henderson Museum, which is on the UC campus.

“A window opens up into this incredibly remote way of life that we normally can’t see much of,” says Bamforth. “The kind of stone that’s present—the kind that flakes to a good sharp edge—isn’t widely available in this part of Colorado. It looks like they were storing material because they knew they would need it later.”

The Mahaffys have finished their pond and landscaping. Bamforth says it is absolutely beautiful, and it has even been written about in a regional magazine.

Dinosaurs in America

Brighton, Tennessee homeowner, Jim Leyden, was at work one day in June 2010, waiting for news about the installation of his new backyard pool when he received a startling phone call from his wife. He was told that fossils, from 30,000 to two million years old, were found on his property.

David Mason of Affordable Pool Contractors in Collierville, Tennessee, unearthed the jawbone while installing a drain line for the Leydens’ new pool. He dug into the dirt and something cracked. He didn’t know it at the time, but he had hit a small piece of tooth.

Roy Young, a conservator at Memphis Pink Palace Museum, later excavated the bones of the ancient beast, finding a large tooth still attached on the right side of the wishbone-shaped fossil. Another tooth had cracked off during the digging for the pool. While digging eight feet beneath the yard’s surface, the contractors discovered the bones of a prehistoric mammal, possibly a trilophodon, part of the mastodon family, which are extinct relatives of today’s elephants.

Young estimated that the bones belonged to an adult who stood up to eight feet tall

were testimony to the hard work I had done. My wife always wanted a pool but I convinced her that the upkeep was too much effort and we joined the local community facility instead.

"In exchange for the concession I agreed to build her a nice flower garden in the lawn space closest to the house with a gazebo she could use for tea or entertaining her lady friends. When I began working that ground I found what I thought was a blob of left over buried concrete. My spade scraped and scraped as I worked hard to dig all the way around this third (man-made) boulder of sorts. Three weekends later I finally did. Two months later I shovelled out the last of the fill dirt the previous owners used to hide the built-in concrete swimming pool.

"Needless to say, we fixed the cracked bottom and drain, re-tiled the sides and filled the refurbished pool. My wife loves it and often needles me, saying I found a way to get out of building her that gazebo and rose garden I promised – as if it was 'less' work than moving all that earth!"

Solving crimes

Called "the longest running con in FBI history," Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter, the man who people knew as "Clark Rockefeller," was born February 21, 1961 in Germany. He moved to the United States as a teenager to study. Over the next several decades he assumed numerous aliases. He also impersonated many people, ranging from a talk show host to a Pentagon advisor before ultimately claiming to be an heir to the famous Rockefeller family.

Using the false name Clark Rockefeller, he married Sandra Boss, a Harvard Business School graduate. The couple had homes in Boston, Massachusetts and in New Hampshire, and lived a prosperous lifestyle solely on Boss's high income as a business consultant. They had a daughter, Reigh Boss, in 2001. Sandra Boss eventually determined her husband had lied to her extensively, and sought a divorce.

In July 2008, following the couple's separation and divorce proceedings, Gerhartsreiter kidnapped their daughter. He was arrested six days later. Investigations determined that he had wildly embellished his background to give the impression that he was born into great wealth as a member of the Rockefeller family. He was later convicted and imprisoned on the kidnapping charge, which is presently under appeal.

In March 2011, Gerhartsreiter was charged with a 1985 murder in Los Angeles County, California, where he had lived at that time. He was initially identified as a



World War Two gun emplacements at the Olympic dig

"person of interest" by police in the 1985 disappearance and possible murder of Jonathan Sohus, a California resident whose guesthouse Gerhartsreiter lived in as a tenant in the upscale community of San Marino, California, during the 1980s.

Bones belonging to Sohus were found in 1994 when the new owner hired a contractor to dig a swimming pool in the backyard.

Gerhartsreiter, who was then using the alias Christopher Chichester, reportedly told people that Jonathan and Linda Sohus had travelled to Europe. The couple's family received a postcard from the couple sent from France after they had disappeared, though its authenticity has been questioned.

"Chichester" was pulled over by police in Greenwich, Connecticut, in the late 1980s driving a pickup truck that had belonged to Jonathan Sohus, but he left the area before police could interview him. Police had no proof that Jonathan and Linda Sohus were dead or had not left voluntarily.

Proceeding investigations revealed that Clark Rockefeller and Christopher Chichester had the same fingerprint and that of his real identity, Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter. Remains or information on the disappearance of Linda Sohus have not been discovered.

A 2010 made for television movie titled "Who Is Clark Rockefeller?" and a 2011 book by Mark Seal titled *The Man in the Rockefeller Suit*, are portrayals of Gerhartsreiter and his approximately 40 years living under fictitious identities.

Were it not for the want of a swimming pool in someone's backyard, Gerhartsreiter might have gotten away with murder. [S](#)

Aussie digs

If you find an artefact in a pool dig in Australia, the first port of call would be the State Museum in your capital city. What happens after that depends on what you've found. If it's not going to be sold, you generally will be allowed to keep it. However, if it's going overseas it will need to be assessed. Items of minor importance will be fine, but if they're significant you might have trouble. If it is an Indigenous item, it may require additional assessments. Martin Robinson from the Search and Discover Department at the Australian Museum, Sydney, says that rather than artefacts, the most common thing he sees in relation to swimming pool digs is animals that have become trapped in the hole. He says clawed animals such as possums can often get over the temporary fencing. He says laying a sack or strip of burlap into the pool – with one end at ground level, and the other in the pool – can often help these animals escape.

Earlier this year, the remains of one of the most famous early indigenous figures were discovered under a family's front garden. Bennelong's remains were found in the garden after research by a Dr Peter Mitchell, who worked out the final resting place in what had been the orchard of Bennelong's friend, the country's first brewer James Squire. The remains and what to do with them have become a matter for the Aboriginal community.



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The Baby & the Bathwater

The learn-to-swim process starts at home in the bath tub. Here the dedicated loving parents can introduce their baby to the water in a relaxed, controlled and secure environment. These early experiences in the bath should be designed to stimulate baby's senses, introduce them to the fun floating sensation and prepare them for their first underwater experience outside the womb. Parents must never leave their baby unattended in the bath and must stay within arm's reach at all times.

Somewhere between four and six months is the ideal time to introduce your baby to the pool and formal learn-to-swim lessons. At four months the baby has good neck control, they are becoming interested in new surroundings and the parent is more relaxed interacting with their baby. When introducing baby to the pool it is important that the environment

is safe and appropriate for young babies.

Having warm water is extremely important when teaching babies to swim as this allows them to be comfortable. The ideal water temperature is 32 degrees Celsius. If warm water is not available, parents should use bathtub techniques: pick warm parts of the day, dress baby appropriately, keep baby moving, hold them close and stay in the pool for short periods of time. Parents should always be alert for the chill factor even if the water temperature is warm, because an outside breeze can make it uncomfortable for your baby.

Pool depth is very important for both parent and baby. Chest level on an adult is perfect. Here the parent is able to hold the child comfortably and look them directly in the eye. Eye contact gives the baby a feeling of real security. If the water is too shallow, it is difficult to maintain eye contact with the

Industry elder and famed Australian swimming coach, Laurie Lawrence, has been teaching his grand-daughter Evie how to swim. As a way of encouraging parents (and grandparents), Evie's mum, Emma Lawrence is chronicling the process in SPLASH! over the next few issues.

baby. If the water is too deep it can become dangerous. Parents must be able to stand and should never be treading water when teaching baby to swim. Parents can become easily fatigued when treading water and this could put your baby in danger.



Evie at four months was already comfortable in the water

Holding the baby

The way the parent holds the baby in the water is extremely important. In every hold, parents should aim to have eye contact with their baby, hold them softly so they can move freely and position them low in the water so they can feel buoyancy. The horizontal floating hold is perhaps the most important for teaching swimming because this is the hold that we use

when we submerge and free float baby. Remember baby must master conditioning before parents attempt any submersions. When going underwater, this horizontal position allows water to break on the baby's forehead and run easily and smoothly over the baby's body. To get a horizontal position parents should spread both hands under baby's chest with the thumbs resting on the shoulders.

We encourage parents to wear a t-shirt in the pool during learn-to-swim lessons. Wearing a loose fitted t-shirt in the water will give your baby something to grip and hold on to. This is very important for encouraging independence in the baby. Even from a very early age we can encourage baby to grip and hold on. By maintaining the baby's natural grasp reflex we can build their independence and self confidence. Independence may one day save your baby's life.

Although we regard water as the main

stimulant, it is important that you are equipped with other items to make your child's swimming lesson stimulating and fun. Keep in mind we want to continue educating your baby via their senses – specifically sight,

sound and touch. Toys should have a swimming related purpose. Large colourful balls are perfect for babies to chase when doing floating and kicking activities. Balls of

different colours and textures will increase stimulation. Pouring water from a cup will also excite and stimulate baby's touch sense and help make them calm and relaxed. Plastic cups are important as they allow us to condition baby for submersion.

Conditioning

Conditioning teaches baby breath control on command. Here we prepare baby for their first underwater experience by conditioning them to react and hold their breath in response to the verbal conditioning trigger, "name, ready go". To condition baby we sit them upright. Take a full cup of water. Use the verbal trigger, "name, ready go". Pour the full cup on the baby's forehead. When conditioning we want

“Between four and six months is the ideal time to introduce your baby to the pool and formal learn-to-swim lessons.”

“Parents must be able to stand and should never be treading water when teaching baby to swim.”

the water to run quickly, smoothly and evenly down the forehead so that baby does not ingest any water. Parents should practise conditioning at home in the bath tub and during the swimming lesson. With daily practice baby will soon master breath control on command and be ready for their first underwater experience outside the womb.

Parents and teachers will know the baby is ready for submersion once they show positive signs to conditioning. The baby will be happy and confident with water on the face and the parent should observe the baby holding their breath and closing their eyes on the trigger words. It is irresponsible and dangerous to submerge baby before they must have mastered conditioning. Conditioning will ensure that the baby's first underwater experience is free from fuss or trauma. Remember we want to instil in baby a love and respect for the water – not fear or trauma. Parents must never submerge a crying baby and should only attempt this activity if the child is relaxed and comfortable.

First submersions must be performed in a horizontal position. This allows the water to break on the forehead and run smoothly and evenly over the body. Submerging in a vertical position allows the water to be easily forced up the baby's nose. When submerging baby we use a double trigger. We continue with our verbal trigger, "name, ready go" and follow it with a kinaesthetic lifting trigger. This lift gives the baby an opportunity to catch their breath before being taken under water. After each submersion parents should look baby in the eye, smile and congratulate their success. If baby cries or ingests water, stop the submersions and return to conditioning.

The most important thing to remember when teaching your baby to swim is that it must be fun for both parent and child. Force has no place in the learn-to-swim lesson. Any programs that forces babies while they are crying and in distress must be avoided. When choosing a swim school for your baby visit multiple centres in your area so that they can compare the philosophies and overall quality of the program. Choose programs that have small

class ratios, group babies according to their development, encourage parental involvement, and hold national accreditation

with Swim Australia and AUSTSWIM.

For more information and videos of Laurie teaching Evie, go to www.babyswim.info

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SPLASH! 2010 won the coveted title - Best Australian Show and Best Trade Show Under 10,000m², awarded by the Exhibition & Event Association of Australia. "Winning an EEAA Award for Excellence is a distinguished mark of outstanding achievement in Australasia's event market," said Margaret Crichton, General Manager, EEAA. Competing against trade and consumer shows throughout Australia & New Zealand the judging panel of 20 industry and media experts looked at everything from floor space sold, number and diversity of exhibitors, number of attendees and also innovation in marketing and promotion. SPLASH! 2010 achieved record exhibitor and attendance numbers and is recognised as a major contributor to the pool and spa market. It was an overwhelming success for Interpoint Events and the pool and spa industry at large.

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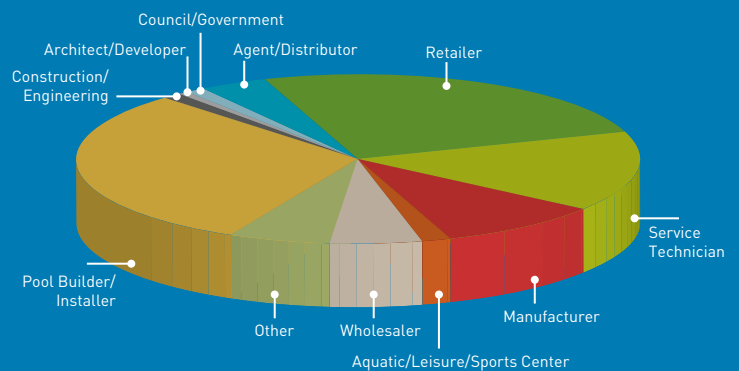
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Key facts

- More than 2250 trade visitors attended the two day show in 2010. An increase of over 25% on 2008, making SPLASH! the largest trade event for the pool & spa industry in Australasia.
- All states of Australia were represented with visitors also coming from New Zealand, China, Hong Kong, India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Taiwan. Other international regions were also represented, including the United States, Europe and Africa.

Attendee breakdown



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The origins of pebble

Pebblecreting is one of many great Australian pool innovations. At the recent SPLASH! Asia Show, we caught up with Rick Jones of Skypebble, one of the founders of the technique.

“It’s a long story,” Rick Jones says, settling down to remember those days several decades past.

“Back in the 1960s I was a contractor for Frank O’Neill Pools – one of the early companies in Sydney. One of the things I found in working for him was that if you wanted to make enough money to put food

on the table, you had to do more than just build a pool – you had to sell extras. I came up with this idea of exposed aggregate as it was called in those days, which you put on balconies and pathways and whatever – and thought that this would be pretty good around a pool.”

“I only did that on the deck around the

pools, not on the interior finish. But we got the job done and the people were happy with it so off we went.”

Afterwards, Jones moved to Mutual Pools.

“We experimented with it a bit more and we ended up using exposed aggregate on all the copings at Mutual Pools.

“Then there was a guy called Al Hooper who was the main shareholder in Mutual Pools. He said why don’t we put this on the inside of the pools? It was a little bit harder than that, but we played with it and fiddled with it and fine-tuned it, and finally got it right. And it became Mutual Pools’ standard finish.”



Consumer revolution

Meanwhile, pool owners in Australia were getting pretty fed up with the interior options at the time – which consisted of a very basic form of paint, or Marblesheen.

“Marblesheen had drawbacks, but it was the only finish around apart from paint,” says Jones. “It was like Henry Ford with his model Ts who said you could have any colour, as long as it was black. With swimming pools, you could have any finish you liked, as long as it was white Marblesheen.

“It stained and corroded and was rough on feet. It’s basically a crushed marble finish, which is limestone and very high on the pH scale. So it’s susceptible to calcium scale build-up. Which in itself attracts dust, so any suspended matter would end up on the walls and the floor of the pool. If people didn’t continually brush it off, it became a permanent stain. The only way to remove that was to empty the water out, sand the whole thing down, and acid wash it. And as you do that, you’re wearing the material thickness down, so it wears out.

“It got to the point where the State Government in NSW introduced a licensing system for house builders and pool builders. And they said the only part of the pool you didn’t have to warrant was the interior finish, because they said it’s too susceptible to staining and too corrosive. So they accepted that. But as more complaints came through month by month they went, ‘Hang on a minute, this is no good. You guys have got to start taking the warranty on this.’ And they ordered a three-year warranty on pool surfaces.

“And we were laughing, because the pebble was impervious to stains. You could do a pebble interior and be lazy with your pool, not look after it properly, not balance your water properly and you’d get dirt in it but you could clean it up. But you couldn’t with the Marblesheen. So virtually overnight, pebble became the standard finish.

“And that’s where this technology was born.”

New territory

In the early 1980s, pebble took a leap into the wider world.

“One thing we always did at Mutual was to bring new technology and new ideas back from the US. In 1983 we brought back the Caretaker in-floor cleaning system – and within three years we signed on as Caretaker’s dealer in Australasia and we were one of their biggest customers in the world.

“The guy who owned the company said ‘I’ve got to come out and see what you guys are doing, you’ve got to be doing something right.’ And he almost fell into the pool when he saw the pebble interior. He said ‘My God, what is that?’

“By the time he was ready to get on the plane and fly home, we’d done a deal with him to put the pebble into the US. They spent a lot of money setting it all up and in 1987 it was introduced. It was called Pebble Technology, Pebble Tec, over there and it’s become a household name. Anywhere in the US, particularly in the Sunbelt states, you talk to people and everyone’s got it.

“Two years ago, we were selling the equivalent of 40,000 pools per year. I say that to people in Australia, and they don’t believe me – that you could build that many pools. But two or three years ago, the total US market was selling more than 100,000 pools per year, and in fact it got up to 200,000 at one stage. Not now, of course though – it’s died right off.”

The new territory Jones is looking at is Asia.

“The Asia market is a growing market – and it’s not the third world part of the world it used to be. Just look around here in Singapore, it’s just incredible. You’ve got areas like Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines. India, for example, 300 million middle class people – it’s just



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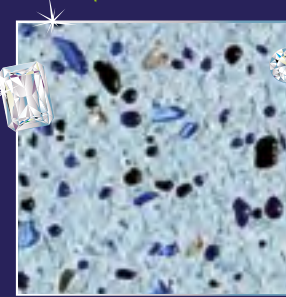
The Crystal Series is a blend of quartz with a high concentration of shimmering glass bead offering a distinctive iridescent shimmering pool finish. Breathtakingly beautiful and highly refractive, and is the latest addition to our already vast range of pool interiors. Combining superior quality white quartz with irregular shaped glass bead, and reflective silver highlights for that extra WOW factor.

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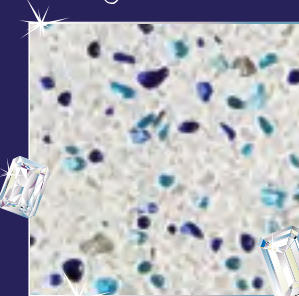
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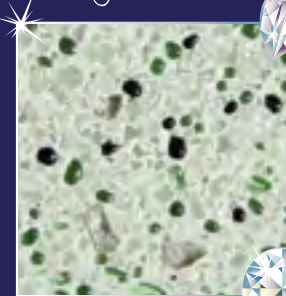
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Gemtex offers an amazing range of intense colours previously unseen in the Australian market. Super smooth and incredibly gentle on the skin, say goodbye to cuts and abrasions when spending long summer days in the pool. The size and irregularity of the glass bead makes them highly reflective, mirroring natural sunlight giving your pool a spectacular sparkle and shimmer. Gemtex interiors rival a fully tiled pool in every aspect, **but are far more affordable!**

LEADING THE WAY THROUGH INNOVATION

Gemtex interiors are designed, manufactured and quality controlled in Australia; they are a high performance, cement based swimming pool interior finish specially formulated for application on reinforced concrete swimming pool or spa shells. Crystal is the perfect choice for either new pools or renovations. Our applicators hand trowel the render onto the prepared shell, which is then pressure washed to reveal the exquisite glass beads beneath, leaving you with a stunning and durable pool interior that will last for many years to come.

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amazing. So we believe there are opportunities there, and we need to be here at SPLASH! Asia. If you don't come and you're not in it, you're never going to know."

They use the Pebble Tec name in the States and Europe, but in Australia and Asia they're using the Skypebble name.

Space grade material

Skypebble has its own quarries in New Zealand: three land sites each with 50 years of material. Additionally, they've got the only beach in New Zealand that has a license to mine pebble.

For the US market, most of the material doesn't come from New Zealand, but from other quarries in Mexico, Chile and parts of the US such as Louisiana and Arkansas.

"We extract it from the ground – the average person would look at that and say it's a lump of dirt. But out of that we have to get the beautiful little pebbles. So it has to go through a screening plant, a washing plant and has to be sorted. Generally what we get out of one tonne of dirt is five to ten percent maximum yield of the material we want. So the rest goes back into the ground and back-



Placid Pools made this stunning natural swimming pool with a pebble surface and coping.

fill. Generally it's grazing land and we seed it and it goes back to the dairy cattle or sheep.

"From our little quarry in New Zealand, it's the second highest grade silica in the world – 99.37 per cent pure silica. Space grade, they call it. So our material going into swimming pools is the same material they use in solar panels and satellites.

"We talk to people here at SPLASH! Asia and some of them say, oh this is something new. And someone said he was concerned about the durability of this 'new' material. And I said, well I don't think you have to worry about that. It's been around 40 years and my pool at home has had it for 28 years – it's the same material!"



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Gemtex' Ruby Red pool surface. Photography by Andrew Warn



THE NEW PEBBLE: BEADS

Reg Carter from Gemtex offers some opinions on the future of pebble pool surfaces. He says that the most significant change in pebble over the last few years is the introduction of glass bead as a colour source.

"Why glass?" Carter asks. "Because it's gentle on the skin, is chemically resistant, fade resistant and glass gives pool water a rich, vivid and intense range and depth of colour."

He says there have also been benefits from using higher quality smooth quartz and the advancements in the polymers and binding agents used to adhere the product to a concrete shell.


His company uses larger sized and irregular glass beads to make them highly reflective, mirroring natural sunlight to provide sparkle and shimmer. These interiors are high performance, cement-based swimming pool finishes specially formulated for application on reinforced concrete

swimming pool or spa shells, in either new pools or renovations.

"Our applicators hand trowel the render onto the prepared shell, which is then pressure-washed to reveal the glass beads below," says Carter. "This leaves you with a stunning pool interior for many years to come."

Carter says to avoid crushed glass and rough quartz chips that can scratch the skin. He also warns against high levels of oxides that can fade significantly or discolour over time.

The pool pictured here is Gemtex Ruby Red. "This custom crimson interior gives the water a blue-green opalescent colour that changes throughout the day," he says.

"From September we'll also be introducing the Crystal series, a blend of quartz with a high concentration of shimmering glass bead and sparkling metallic silver highlights for added sparkle." 

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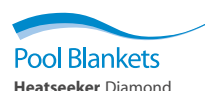
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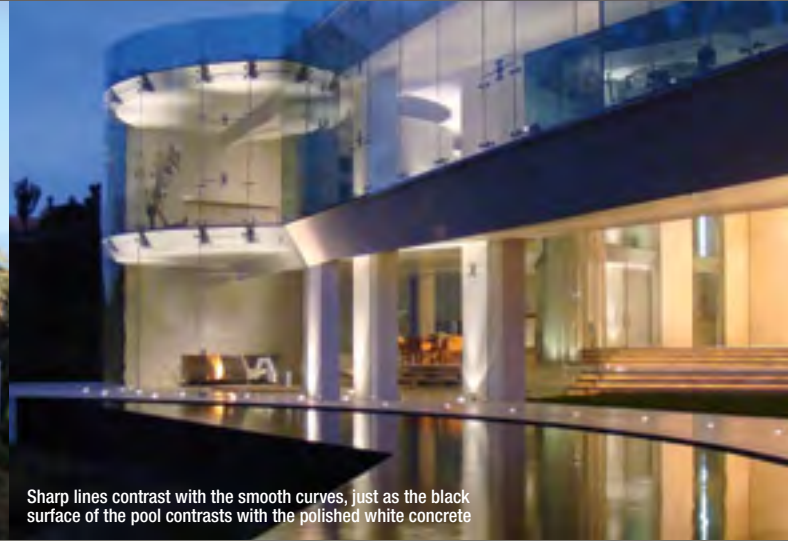
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The pool uses curves and radii to reflect the shapes within the house



Sharp lines contrast with the smooth curves, just as the black surface of the pool contrasts with the polished white concrete

Pool As Art

This pool and house from architect Wallace E Cunningham is on the market – anyone got a cool \$32 million?

La Jolla in California is home to many of our planet's super rich – and this home exemplifies what you can do if you have enough money. To own this polished concrete and floor-to-ceiling glass marvel would be like living in a futuristic work of art.

The pool of course, is more about the look than simply swimming laps or playing pool volleyball. The wet-edge pool is a highly unusual shape, playing off the curves and radii used throughout Cunningham's design.

Black against the white polished concrete, the pool stands out and offers a reflection of the house or of the view depending on your perspective. The shape is like a circle with

a giant wedge removed. In place of the wedge is the view of the Pacific Ocean and the rugged Southern California coastline.

La Jolla has the highest average home prices in the USA, with each residence worth nearly \$US2 million. But that, of course, is a mere spit in the ocean if you have your eye on Cunningham's design, dubbed the Razor House.

For the record, this thousand square metre home features four bedrooms and six bathrooms, a two-level guest house and private access to the beach below.

For those with the suitable funds and inclination, contact the real estate agents Hurwitz James Company at www.hurwitzjamesco.com. **S**



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