

## *Swimming Officer's Report 2009*

Another year in our club has gone by and it is amazing how quickly it has happened.....

I could give you a long boring doom and gloom report on how our swimming numbers have decreased. Taking into account the possible increase in the cost of the swimming pool we really could do with more swimmers, BUT I won't, as we are fortunate to have two other parts to our club (diving & snorkelling) and at the moment they are seriously helping us to carry on.

It was very sad though, that we couldn't keep using, even after the committee's heroic efforts, the De Schelft pool on Sundays. It must be said that the management of De Schelft itself tried to help us find a solution to the insurance problem. What was disappointing was that neither Optisport; the group who run De Schelft swimming pool, nor the SSCC in ESTEC could offer us any assistance in trying to find a solution.

For the last hour, in response to our e-mails, there was a good turn out for a fun filled time in De Schelft, with the members making the most of their time there. It gave us the chance to leave on a high with fond memories of a great pool.

On the note of pools, regulars at the Sterrenbad our Saturday pool, in Wassenaar will have seen the new pool building being built. This new pool will supposedly be finished this year and there is going to be a knock on effect to our club, as the cost per hour is going up.

What we do have is an excellent relationship with the staff of the Sterrenbad pool, something which I worked very hard to create and have over the years been very grateful for.

A new rule came into effect concerning the Sterrenbad swimming pool and it concerns the insurance the pool has itself, in relation to lowering the floor height. A compromise which we have agreed is that committee members & diving club instructors are allowed to alter the depth when required as long as no person is in the pool at the time. If we do not follow this rule the club is liable for a very hefty fine.

Could I take this opportunity to mention basic etiquette again to fellow swimmers please? Don't hog the wall chatting while others are still swimming, please don't stop someone else swimming while exiting the pool. As there are ladders on both sides of the pool there is absolutely no acceptable reason why this should happen. The time sharing of the pool for the three groups does, most of the time, work very well and this year has not been a problem.

We have a super club and although I agree we do need new swimming members, (actually new snorkelers & divers would be nice too!), it is just a present phase; hence my swimming officer's report is NOT going to be filled with doom and gloom!

Also on that note it is lovely to see afterwards the coffee table group (the best place for a chat) growing with new faces.....

*Myra Macleod-Nolan*  
*Swimming officer*