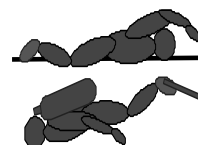




ESTEC SWIMMING & SUB-AQUA CLUB

www.geocities.com/estecessac

June 2004 Newsletter



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Dirk vd Wint



It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Dirk vd Wint - better known to all as 'big Dick' on the 29th of April 2004.

As stalwart members of Essac for many years he and his companion Liliane Valentine, rarely missed a club pool session or social event.

Dirk's teenage years were eventful as he and his family were trapped and interned in Indonesia when the country was overrun by

the Japanese during WWII - but Dirk, who spoke little of those times, eventually arrived in Europe to a life and career working with the Shell Oil company. Dirk met Liliane whilst in Paris.

A letter we received from Liliane shortly after the funeral, we think, portrays our memory of him so well. Part of what she says is as follows:

'Dirk was suffering from vascular Parkinsonism but never complained and was very courageous. I hope you will remember him as a kind, funny person, good swimmer and a good dancer of rock and roll! I am sure he would send you his love and would not like tears and sadness. All my kindest regards to you all. Liliane'.

We knew Dirk as a fine athlete who, when swimming in the fast-lane, had a wingspan so great that nobody could overtake - even if they fancied they could!

Editorial

The more astute of you will have noticed that, although this letter is headed June 2004, we are actually well into July. This is nothing more than editorial bloody mindedness when it comes to meeting deadlines - having suffered more than the usual delays.

The poem from Loretta requires a little explanation I think! A long, long time ago Estec had its own informal newssheet called Perigee. Loretta used to contribute cartoon and verse

on a regular basis and her Mission Widow piece was typical. I remembered this memorable item and managed to persuade her to let us see it again,

Loretta is still with us of course, but Perigee is not having become, it seems, a bit too controversial. I recall the time that just a bit too much skin was photographed on the floor of the test facility (almost literally) but . . . that's another story!

Thanks also to Dimitri for reporting on the water skiing expedition/social. I asked him if he would cover the event and, quick-as-a-flash, there was the text in my e-mail. Oh would that others . . .

Phil Baker : email: panda.baker@wanadoo.nl

AGM 2004

The AGM was held on Saturday the 5th of June at the Wassenaar pool, it was well attended and went rather well I thought.

We got the couple of (mildly) contentious issues which were still hanging over the club resolved and I was really pleased to see that the revised constitution and the confirmation of the Wassenaar pool times were both agreed by a huge majority.

Sadly we lost four of our long serving committee members - Drusilla, Trix, Wayne and John . A big thank you to all of them for the sterling service which they have given to the club over the years.

The new committee members elected at the AGM were - Audrey Paterson as Treasurer/Club Secretary, Katherine Baker as Social Officer, Martin de Boer as Equipment Officer, and Peter de Maagt as Diving Officer. Thank you all for volunteering to give your time and energy to the club.

The water skiing and BBQ at Wet and Wild in Alphen on June the 27th was a big success. We had a turnout of about thirty most of whom had a go on either ski's or

boards with varying degrees of success. I think it was a memorable afternoon for everybody who took part.

We are always on the lookout for new ideas for club social events so if there is something you think we should try then let one of the committee know about it and we will see what can be done .

Con

Aaah! . . Smack! . . Splash!

This was a sequence of sounds that became quite common on our Wet 'n' Wild water skiing trip.

We arrived at the Wet 'n' Wild complex full of good hopes for a great day full of fun and water. Our enthusiasm had diminished a little once we were ready; mostly nerves but also the smelly wet suits had dampened the spirits. However, this disappeared once we were in the water and it certainly did not stop people from having a great day.



Con getting down to it!

The most gratifying part of the day was probably the barbecue afterwards as you could watch other people falling about and making fools of themselves trying to do what you had already accomplished (or not as the case may be) while enjoying the good food. All-in-all we had a fantastically wet and wild day and for that many thanks to Bas and Brigitte for the

organisation.

For those who tried and failed miserably (or was I the only one?), rumours have it that we may be doing this again soon so, there will be a second chance!

Dimitri

The Isles of Scilly

As we go to press, a hyperlink is being set up, allowing those reading this on-line to view images of the sights above and below water on the Isles of Scilly in May. Those lucky enough to have broadband should have no trouble but it may be slower for others. Thanks to Manuela, Anthony and John Ives for the input.



A typical Scilly's shot!

[hyperlink to slideshow](#)

Good luck.

Ed

Another Gala Success

The gala is without a doubt a lot of hard work, what with all the preparations and organizing before and after, but it is worth it, just to see so many having a good time. It is only possible because of the amount of help, generously given by fellow club members.



Only the youngsters kept the canoes upright

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big "Thank You" to :

- John, Maria, Brian and Chris, for coming really early and helping to set everything up before and during the gala.
- Aileen, Ann and Trix, for calculating the scores throughout and awarding points etc.
- Peter for his unique style as compere, which keeps us all in line or should I say the water?
- Jeff and Trix for all the work of organizing yet another superb BBQ at ESTEC.
- Phil and Vladi for sorting out the equipment and music, which adds so much to our evening's enjoyment.
- To all the others who helped on the day, my sincere thanks.



The winning team with big brother hoisting little sister (and trophy) into the air - not for the first time that day!



Myra singing a verse of Wild Rover with John on flute!

Finally a request - new games for next year - we are wide open for ideas now?

Myra

Mission Widow

I am a mission widow -
A lot of us there are
In Lisse, Noordwijk, Oegstgeest,
Even snooty Wassenaar.

My husband's off to Schiphol,
He's San Francisco bound -
Or was it Bristol this week?
Either way, he's not around.

So I'm left behind in the polder
With the kids and other wives
And while our men are up there somewhere
We get on with our lives.

While he's waking up in Washington
With a meeting on his mind,
I'm loading up the washing machine.
I hope it doesn't grind . . .

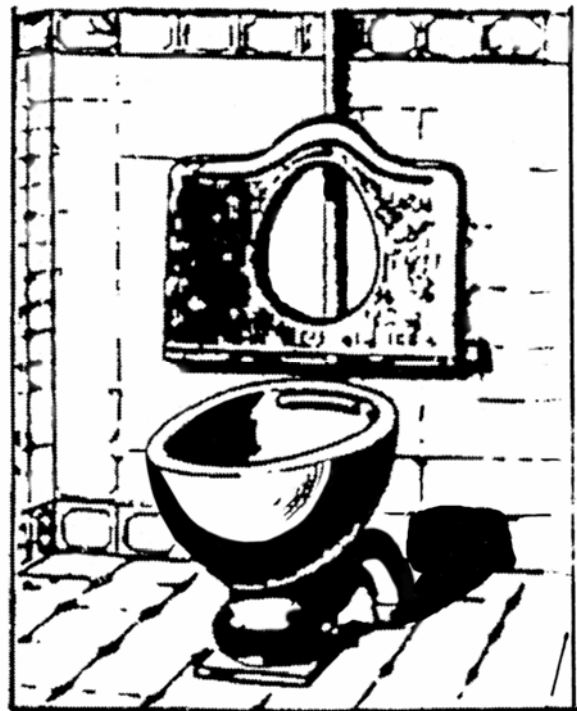
. . . To a halt like it did last time
And flood the house. I think
I might try growing mushrooms
In the cupboard under the sink.

He went to Cannes last Thursday,
Dined on 'Langoustes aux Aubergines'.
I opened a can last Thursday
Of knakworst and baked beans.

He says I've got it made here.
It isn't all hoover and scrub,
There's tennis and bowling and riding,
Keep-fit and the Ladies Club.

He says 'I'll swap with you, dear.
YOU go to Stevenage.'
I say 'I'll swap with you dear.
YOU defrost the ruddy fridge.'

But that's cloud cuckoo land, dear.
He's gone and I'm back on my own.
Just me and the kids and a big cold bed
And the loo-seat always down!



'Dad's home'!

Loretta

Swimming Matters

Stop Press:

We have just been informed of the swimming schedule forthcoming winter season at the Noordwijkerhout De Schelft pool and it is as follows:

The season begins on Sunday 3 October 2004 and ends on Sunday 24 April 2005.

Please also take note that, so far, just two dates during the entire period, Sunday 26 December 2004 and Sunday 27 March 2005, the pool is closed.

Session time is always 15:45 - 16:45.

Previous experience has taught us that the pool authorities may spring other cancellations on us at short notice therefore, keeping a keeping a careful eye on your e-mail is highly recommended.

Ed.

Our Committee

Our 2004/2005 elected committee is:

Chairman	Con McCarthy
Club Treasurer	Audrey Paterson
BSAC Secretary	Bjorn Rommen
Diving Officer	Peter de Maagt
Training Officer	Bas Galewicz
Equipment Officer	Martin de Boer
Swimming Officer	Myra Macleod-Nolan
Expeditions Officer	Anthony Thirkettle
Snorkelling	Wim van Leeuwen
Social Secretary	Katherine Baker

The committee minutes and reports can be viewed on our website under the 'Our Committee' icon.