



Press Release – Friday 3rd September

25 YEARS OF MAKING A SPLASH!

What were you doing at this time in 1985? Perhaps you were not born, are too young to remember, or were not living in Exmouth at that time. However, for many of the people in Exmouth, 1985 was a very exciting year. They were getting ready for the opening of the first indoor swimming pool to be built East Devon.

Exmouth Swimming & Leisure Centre, is today run by the charitable trust Leisure East Devon Ltd (LED). There have been a number of changes and improvements over the last quarter of a century, but the centre still remains the hub for swimming and leisure within the town – and will be celebrating it's 25th birthday by 'Making a Splash' on Monday 6th September, between 10am and noon.

The pool originally opened by the then Chairman of East Devon District Council, Cllr C.G.E. Cotterell, on Friday the 6th September 1985. The people of Exmouth responded to the opening of the pool with considerable enthusiasm, with over 1,000 customers taking the splash and enjoying an indoor swim over the first few days.

The opening of the pool was a 'smash hit' that had taken some 30 years to come to fruition. Exmouth Swimming and Life Saving Society originally campaigned for an indoor pool, which was eventually provided: "Through the auspices of East Devon District Council and with the donations of the people of Exmouth." It also required the "dedication and hard work of the Exmouth Swimming Pool Fund Committee" at the time, to raise a considerable amount

of money towards the cost of the new pool. This contribution is commemorated by a plaque of donation bricks that is situated on poolside at the centre.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Leisure East Devon Ltd is a charitable trust established on 1 January 2006 that manages East Devon District Council's leisure facilities under a 30-year lease. Please see: www.ledleisure.co.uk for more details.

The facilities are: Axe Valley Leisure Centre; Broadclyst Leisure Centre; Colyton Leisure Centre; Ottery St Mary Leisure Centre (Colin Tooze Sports Centre); Exmouth Tennis & Leisure Centre; Exmouth Swimming & Leisure Centre; Exmouth Pavilion; Exmouth's Phear Park; Honiton Swimming & Leisure Centre; Seaton's Seaford Gardens; Sidmouth's Coburg Road Gardens; Sidmouth Leisure Centre & Sidmouth Swimming Pool.

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