



**Novum International Gala
Eindhoven Holland
Saturday 7nd July - Sunday 8rd July
2018**

INITIAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

**Gala starts at 12 midday on both days and concludes approx.
5.00pm**

Redditch Swimming Club has been invited to attend this gala every year since 2015. Each year a growing number of Redditch swimmers and parents attended the gala which attracts swimmers from a great number of countries as far afield as the USA and the far-east as well as numerous teams from Europe. The gala is open to all swimmers aged over 9 years.

Redditch swimmers have always excelled in winning medals in both the junior and senior groups. This year we hope that more swimmers and parents will attend and our results will be even better than last year.

The pool is a first class international competition pool, consisting of both a 50 meter and a 25 meter pool in the same building. Swimmers under 12 compete in the 25 meter pool and everyone else in the 50 meter.

The cost of entry has previously been a set price of 40 Euros which entitles swimmers to 4 races each day and a free NOVUM T-shirt. The costs for 2018 have not yet been released but they are expected to be around a similar amount.

The hotel accommodation is superb and only a 10 minute walk to the pool. A number of rooms have already been reserved for Redditch Swimming Club.

The hotel is a short journey from Eindhoven airport. The cost from the airport is approx. 15 Euros in a taxi.

The hotel has its own pool and plenty of facilities for all our needs and is very comfortable. The hotel is a short taxi ride to the centre of Eindhoven where there are numerous shops restaurants bars etc. There is also a very convenient bus service to the centre of Eindhoven from outside the hotel.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our swimmers to compete in an international gala and provides a fantastic opportunity to team -build not only amongst our own team but also other UK teams and international teams.

We do however insist that swimmers must be accompanied at all time by a parent or designated adult.

There will be a letter from the Chairman available for you to pass on to your child's school requesting permission for leave from school for however many days you will require. This will be emailed to you following payment of deposit for you to personalise for your school. So far all head teachers have granted permission for the swimmers to be absent from school. Travel arrangements may mean that your child will have to miss school on the Friday before the gala and the following Monday.



The 'Pieter van den Hoogenband International Swim Stadium'. This is part of the De Tongelreep Swimming Complex in Eindhoven.

Swimming essentials to bring with you

- **At least two swimming costumes/pairs of jammers** – to allow for any 'wardrobe malfunctions'.
- **Snacks for the gala** – fruit and water provided last 2 years - optional
- **Towels** – At least two swimming towels.
- **Goggles** – at least 2 pairs.
- **Drinks bottle** – A large capacity one please.
- **Redditch hats** – two please. (A Special Redditch/Eindhoven hat will be arranged)
- **Redditch/Eindhoven T shirt for the parade** (ditto as for the hats)

Accommodation



<https://www.hoteleindhoven.nl/en> or

Google Van der Valk Hotel Eindhoven

The hotel is only yards from the main ring road around Eindhoven and is very easy to find.

The responsibility for booking the hotel remains with the individual family.

There will be a team meal for everyone in the hotel on Saturday evening which has been a great success and it is intended to do the same this year.

Travel arrangements

Each swimmer/parent will have to make their own travel arrangements.

There are several options:

- Fly to Eindhoven from Manchester or Stanstead on Friday 6th and return on Monday 9th. (arriving Saturday morning is very risky)
- Sail overnight from Hull on Friday night returning on Sunday after the gala – Pershore Club prefer this option (downside Pershore had to miss the final events on Sunday to make the ferry)
- Drive via Eurotunnel – Eindhoven about 4 hours from Calais
- Sail to Calais and drive.

The preferred route in the past has been to fly arriving Friday returning Monday.

Malcolm Ross has hitherto driven and has taken all of the swim bags to avoid parents incurring extra cost on the flights for 'hold luggage'.

However Malcolm cannot go this year due to a family wedding so arrangements for the bags will have to be considered nearer the time.

Travel and personal insurance will be matter for each individual/parent.

Take an opportunity to speak to swimmers or parents that have been before.

Details of the actual gala will probably be released around March time. Once received it will be circulated to those who have expressed an interest.

If you are interested or have any questions and in order that we can gauge response for 2018, please let any of the following know:

- Malcolm Ross,
- Paul Hartland or
- Martin Ward

Malcolm Ross

Chair RSC

10.1.18