



Leisure pool design has moved a long way from bright turquoise rectangular structures surrounded by acres of tiling. Dawn Gay looks at some of the latest innovations and renovations in pool design that are making a splash

IN AT THE DEEP END

Health clubs and spas

Health clubs and spas are pushing the boundaries in pool design with the luxury of a little extra budget. Natural, textured materials like slate, granite, basalt and marble are replacing Caribbean-blue tiles, making the experience more like taking a dip in a plunge pool or lagoon than a bog standard pool.

Dani Greenhalgh, general manager

for the Bannatyne Group health club at Fairfield Hall, Hertfordshire says: 'Standard rectangular pools are great for lane swimming and training, but guests here want the overall package catering for those who want to both train and unwind. The pool inspires ultimate relaxation - it completes the club.'

The pool area at Grade II listed Fairfield Hall was redeveloped by PJ Livescy Group, which specialises

Above: Private commission from the London Swimming Pool Company

in older building renovation it has maintained the building's Victorian identity. 'The 150 year old building maintains original features like its beautiful archways. The swimming pool is tiled in mosaic and there's exposed brickwork and slate around the pool,' adds Greenhalgh.

Some health club pool designers are taking it one step further and looking to the buoyant Red Sea for inspiration.