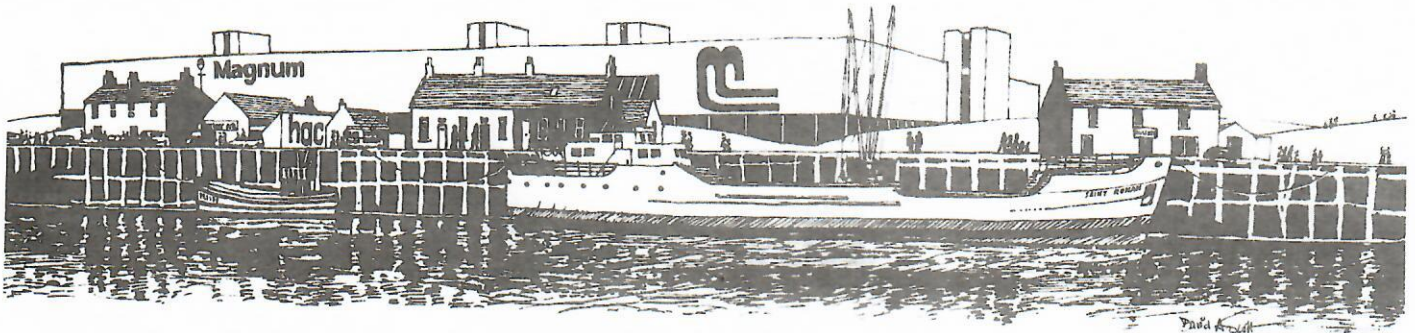


Million Spinner

6



Design



As widely reported in the recreation Press, Magnum, Scotland's finest leisure centre, has met with a public response far beyond expectation. Nearly 25,000

people passed through the centre on the opening day and with the summer months to come before the first year of use is completed one million people have already visited the centre.

Administered by Cunninghame District Council the Centre is one of Scotland's few major joint schemes and Strathclyde Regional Council and Kyle and Carrick District Council are also represented on the Joint Management Committee.

Magnum is the "wide-bodied Jumbo" of the leisure scene and represents an update on Billingham Forum with comparable facilities of ice, pool, dry and theatre areas, projectile range and three squash courts. Magnum will not mind the comparison since Billingham was a market leader in its time and attracted worldwide interest, a role which Magnum is now fulfilling.

Any recreation manager visiting the Centre will quickly recognise that the combination of size, design and high volume attendance means that Magnum is a praiseworthy achievement of a true leisure centre based essentially on sports facilities. The generous circulation and viewing space together with the social facilities are clearly important for both passive and active visitors and attract real family attendances.

The former architects department of the Burgh of Irvine and now the Technical Services Department of Cunninghame District Council designed the Centre to give visual linking of areas, social and active, and even linking one participating area to another. From the main leisure pool, for example, one can look to the bowls hall on one side, ice rink to the other and beach park on another side. The Centre is linked with a 150-acre Beach Park, which will be available to the public in 1978. The simple and direct architectural approach of the Centre gives an effective flow between changing and activity areas and the layout of the building is aimed at achieving unobtrusive control and maximum 'spin-off' by casual spectating.

It is estimated that the gross costs of the Centre in 1977/78 will amount to £991,621 (inclusive of loan charges of some £367,141) and that the income from charges, fees, rents, etc, will amount to £295,775.

David Webster was, prior to local government reorganisation, appointed Manager of the Centre by the former Joint Committee. After reorganisation Mr Webster was appointed Director of Leisure for Cunninghame and Stanley Robertson was appointed Manager of the Centre and Depute Director of Leisure for Cunninghame.

A visit to Magnum will fall high on the priority list of every recreation manager finding himself within striking distance of Irvine.

Based on a visit to Irvine.

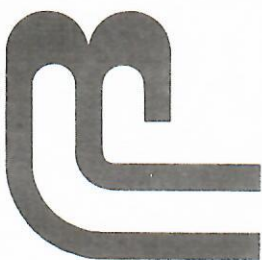
Ged.

Why Magnum?

David Webster and Stan Robertson passed over many ideas before settling for the title Magnum. Originally designated Irvine Harbour Leisure Centre it was felt a title with greater impact was required. When Magnum came to mind it was quickly recognised as a perfect answer in view of the Latin meaning of the word, the association with champagne and the 'image projection' value.

Built at a cost of almost £3m. Magnum's list of facilities is impressive—

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Ice Rink | 8. Theatre/Cinema |
| 2. Leisure and Training Pools | 9. Three Squash Courts |
| 3. Main Hall | 10. Projectile Range |
| 4. Lesser Hall | 11. Cafeteria and Bars |
| 5. Bowls Hall (7 rinks) | 12. Meeting Rooms |
| 6. Fitness and Weight-Training | 13. Exhibition Area |
| 7. Sauna/Solarium Suite | 14. Kiosks and Offices |



(photo by Irvine Times Studio)