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The July edition of the EU Swim Newsletter highlights the recent success of the Ecole Seraing de Natation from Belgium. In the spirit of the upcoming EU Swimming Invitational this October, this edition of the newsletter also presents the city of Aarschot, giving an insight into its rich cultural and historical treasures.

Next month's newsletter will be published on 31 August. Please do not hesitate to send in your articles by this date. I look forward to hearing from you and hope you enjoy this edition.

*Julia Galan  
Director, EU Swimming Invitational*

## Ecole Seraing de Natation: Summer Success

*Remy Crahay  
Swimming Section  
ESN Seraing, Belgium*

**A**ccolades, accomplishments and a new Olympic pool has made this season the Ecole Seraing de Natation's summer of success. The club has been ranked 1st out of all francophone Belgian teams and 3rd overall in the nation following the results of the recent Belgian National Championships

The season began in June with several excellent performances by Fanny Giltay, Maxime Adrien, and Thibault Emonds-Alt at the Comen Swimming Cup in Belgrade. In July, ESN stars Julie de Coster and Quentin Kebron represented club and country at the European Youth Olympic Festival in Finland. The pair turned in excellent results and several placements in semi-finals and finals.

After a training camp in Troyes, ESN returned to home base – and the opening of their Olympic pool in Seraing. The pool had been closed for three years and ESN had been forced to wait for its renovation, training under difficult conditions but succeeding nonetheless.

Now newly renovated, the Seraing pool allowed ESN to make the final push towards what would be the crowning glory of the season – the Belgian National Championships.

Thirty-two ESN swimmers participated, bringing home a total of thirty medals.

Congratulations to the Ecole Seraing de Natation for their accomplishments! «



## Presenting the City of Aarschot

**A**arschot, host of the 2009 EU Swimming Invitational, is a town located in north Belgium, on the Demer River and between the slopes of the Hageland. Its vibrant commercial center, beautiful location, charm and cultural riches gave the city the name 'Pearl of the Hageland'. The Demer Valley charms nature lovers. The Rillaar and Gelrode boroughs surprise one with impressive views. The Lang village forests provide an ideal natural framework for the many historic chapels found there. In the city of Aarschot itself, a variety of monuments bear witness to a rich and eventful history.

Below are several notable historical sites.

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### Begijnhof , Aarschot

*Founded in the 13th century, the Begijnhof houses have been restored following their destruction during World War II.*



### Het Gasthuis Cultural Center Gasthuisstraat 22 – Aarschot

*The cultural center displays the culinary delights of the local Hageland countryside.*

### De Heimolen Langdorp

*The Heimolen mill dates from 1662, and is situated in the Windmolenstraat to Gijmel / Lang Village, Aarschot. In 1999 the mill was fully restored and volunteers work there each Sunday.*



### Hertogenmolens Aarschot

*Originally a 16th century watermill on the Demer River, the Hertogenmolens has had an eventful history defending the city from sieges.*

Aarschot is a city of culture and history – and in October, it will be a city for the swimmers!  
We hope you will be able to visit Aarschot and participate in the 2009 EU Swimming Invitational.  
Please see [www.euswim.org](http://www.euswim.org) for more details on the competition. «

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