

hampton pool trust

Poolside Chat

News from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

SUMMER 2013

Hampton Pool Trust is a small independent not for profit company and educational charity.

It is run by volunteers with a vision to maintain Hampton Pool as a safe, welcoming, enjoyable, sustainable and inspirational heated, public open air swimming environment, all year round. Registered in England No 1870925, limited by guarantee. Charity No 294117



Would you like to become a member or Trustee of Hampton Pool Trust?

Hampton Pool Trust members are passionate about the facility and how it is run. If you care about the future of the pool then why not become a member of the 'company', or even a Trustee?

A company?

Hampton Pool Trust is registered as both a charity *and* a company. The company owns the building and the pool and exists to secure the long term future of the pool for community use.

Limited liability and responsibility

Each member of the company is liable in the unlikely scenario of bankruptcy – but it is limited to only £25. There are over 40 members of the company and they elect the Board of Trustees who are responsible for the general oversight of the running of the pool.

Become a Trustee

HPT Trustees attend a Board meeting quarterly to oversee YMCA LSW's (our appointed managing agent) day-to-day operations of the pool and to progress the HPT strategic plan.

Sound interesting? If you are passionate about Hampton Pool and would like to join the team aiming to make it an inspiration for the popularity of sustainable, open air swimming, and the good management of a local community facility, then please contact daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk

Get in touch

We welcome your contributions and feedback. Please drop us a line at info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk



Your opinions will help shape the future of the pool

by Daphne Wharton, Hampton Pool Trust Chair

Hampton Pool Trust (HPT) held an open forum on the building project in March from which we received a lot of great feedback. We'd now like some more, for which you could win some concert tickets!

Twenty four people attended the open forum at St Mary's parish hall in Church Road on Monday 8 March 2013. William Redfern presented the four building options being considered by the HPT Board. William pointed out that the options were feasibility plans based on the space and finance available and were not detailed plans:

- Option 1 – extend the gym and improve reception*
- Option 2 – extend the Sun Café and install a lift*

Option 3 – extend the western end of the building

Option 4 – new build at the deep end with the aim of creating a new all-year-round revenue stream such as a soft play area or bigger exercise room and providing extra storage space

The sense of the meeting was that all of the options would help to improve the pool and that sustainability should be included as a separate project. Before the meeting ended it was agreed to make the open forum not just for HPT members but for anyone who had an interest in the pool. *continued on page 3*

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- If you can help in any way, please get in touch with us at info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk*

FUNDRAISING FOR THE FUTURE OF HAMPTON POOL

SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

Midge Ure & band / ABC / Show of Hands / The Zombies / 'The Carpenters Story' / The Illegal Eagles & Nearly Dan
Buy your tickets now online at www.hamptonpool.co.uk before they're all gone!

Thanks to the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity and the local community for their financial support.

HPT Chair's letter

Welcome to our summer 2013 edition of Poolside Chat

SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

Buy your tickets now online at www.hamptonpool.co.uk before they're all gone! Tickets also available from reception.

hampton pool trust

With a hard and long winter behind us, *Let the sun shine in* becomes an anthem of hope for all open air swimmers. Even though it's a deeply satisfying experience to swim amidst the steam of an early winter's morning, the glint and lure of the azure pool in high summer really takes your breath away.

Over the past year Hampton Pool Trust has been forging ahead with its building plans to make good use of the money donated in memory of Milly Dowler. The aim of HPT is to develop an economically and environmentally sustainable facility that is as inclusive as possible and attracts new, regular customers. We can only achieve this through additional all-year-round revenue streams that don't depend on warm sunny days.

The projects are outlined on the Hampton Pool Trust website at www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk. The outline plans were put to members of HPT and the general public at an open forum and public meeting in March. The feedback collected at the open forum can be seen on the opposite page. There is still a chance to have your say about the plans by completing the online survey.

“ *S-measure is producing weekly statistics on our energy and water consumption which we can use for benchmarking comparisons in the future. A carbon footprint notice board is planned for reception to keep you up to date* ”

There is still a long way to go before building can commence: full feasibility studies, architects plans, permission from the Royal Parks, LBRuT planning permission and fundraising. The aim is to have everything in place by 2014. If you would like to make a donation to the work of HPT and/or the building project you can now do this through the BT MYDonate link on the Hampton Pool and HPT websites. This will collect gift aid on our behalf.

Hampton Pool Summer Picnic Concerts are the major fundraiser for the Trust so please bring your friends to a joyous evening of top class entertainment where every view is like a front row experience. And you can have a swim.

The Trust is also making progress on its Green agenda. *S-measure* is producing weekly statistics on our energy and water consumption which we can use for benchmarking comparisons in the future. A carbon footprint notice board is planned for reception to keep you up to date. We are also attempting to measure the embedded carbon in maintenance and capital projects. The new filters installed in the main tank use recycled glass from local sources rather than sand as the filtration



medium. The facility has a carbon reduction target of 5% this year.

The summer timetable is full of exciting swim and gym activities for all ages. Great Whites Swimming Club is very popular and Moonlight Dips are proving to be a great success. Thanks to Simon Bailey and his team for coming up with innovative ideas and making them a reality. Don't forget the Family Fun Day on Sunday 14 July, French themed as it's Bastille Day, and also TNT, our dynamite kids club, that runs on Tuesday and Thursday mornings throughout the school summer holidays. The Trust is currently conducting a survey on what you think about current patterns of usage at the pool. If you have something you want to say, please follow the link in latest news panel on the Hampton Pool website.

Enjoy your swimming this summer – whatever the weather! ●

Daphne Wharton

Daphne Wharton, Hampton Pool Trust Chair

Come and enjoy the Bastille Day themed

Family Fun Day

on Sunday 14 July

Featuring activities from 11.00am including Falconry, the Polar giant inflatable and much more. **Normal admission prices apply and all the entertainment is free.**



New arrivals!

Congratulations to Francis and family on the arrival of Bethany and Adam and family on the arrival of James.



Meet the Trustees

Tim Lawes FCA, Finance Director

The Board is delighted to welcome Tim Lawes FCA as Finance Director. Last summer Tim took on the role of selecting and booking the bands for the Hampton Pool Summer Picnic Concerts and ran a very successful season defying the appalling weather.

Fortunately for HPT he has agreed to take on that role again and has also agreed to join the Board. Tim brings a wealth of experience of running a business as a managing director and marketing director. He is also the Treasurer and Trustee for the Institute of Direct and Digital Marketing.

Tim is a member of Poolside Swim & BBQ Club. ●

What do trustees do at the weekend?

by Pippa Butterfield

When I joined the board of Hampton Pool Trust almost three years ago there was a vacancy for someone to organise and run stalls at Spring/Summer road shows to promote the pool and the Summer picnic concerts. I agreed tentatively to fill the hole, so to speak, and then set about finding suitable local events. Chestnut Sunday in Bushy Park seemed a good starting point, along with the Hampton Fun Day at the Beveree, Hampton and Hampton Hill Carnival near the White House, Teddington Village Fair and the Strawberry Hill Music and Fun Day at St Mary's College, all events in close proximity to the pool. Last year we also attended the HANDS Twickenham Green Fair (although I still haven't worked out if it's green as in environmental or just because it takes place on Twickenham Green!)

I was amazed when talking to the "public at large" by the number of people who had never heard of Hampton Pool, despite living so close to it! Hopefully this is starting to change now as a team of volunteers get "out there" at the road shows and promote the benefits of outdoor swimming and the amazing facilities of Hampton Pool.

This year Hampton Pool will be represented at:

- Chestnut Sunday: 12 May
- Hampton Fun Day: 18 May
- HANDS Twickenham Green Fair: 27 May
- Hampton and Hampton Hill Carnival: 8 June
- Teddington Village Fair: 16 June
- Strawberry Hill Music and Fun Day: 7 July

Please pop down and see us for the chance to win tickets for this year's Summer Picnic Concerts.

It would also be great if you'd like to help out: we're always grateful for volunteers.

If you can help out please email me at pippa.butterfield@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk

HPT initiatives

Insights into our long term strategy and how we are going to achieve it

Energy savings

by HPT Trustee, Grahame Hadden

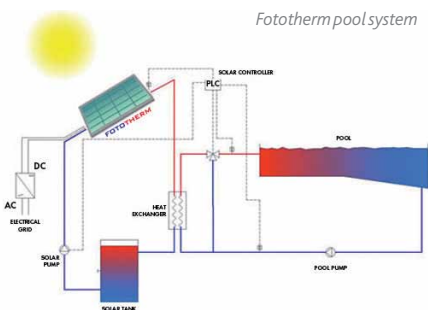
Keeping Hampton Pool open all year round does consume a vast amount of energy!

We use gas to heat the water and electricity to drive the circulation pumps to circulate the water through the filters and sanitising system to keep it safe and clean.

It has been a long term goal to reduce our heating costs and become more sustainable. New developments in photo voltaic (PV) technology now make solar panels very interesting for Hampton Pool.

In the past we have looked at solar thermal heating panels to provide hot water to heat the swimming pool and even the shower water. However, a large surface area of panels is needed to heat a pool of our size, about half the surface area of the pool.

We have also looked at solar voltaic panels to generate electricity (early adopters of both these technologies will know the costs associated with them). Luckily panels are becoming more cost effective and new panel designs from two European solar panel manufacturers now combine both solar heating and electricity generation into one panel. The new panels incorporate a network of piping behind the PV cells and water is passed through the back of the panel. This process cools the power generating crystalline cells on the panel, increasing their generating efficiency, and the warm water can be used for heating the pool or hot water for changing rooms. Initially, we would like to see panels installed on the plant room roof providing heat for the main pool and panels on the café roof to heat the learner pool.



We would then include similar technology in any new building projects. Whilst any solar thermal panel works best in the spring, summer and autumn, these new style panels would generate electricity all year round, helping to reduce our energy costs.

We would also benefit from the government 'feed-in tariff' for generating electricity that would provide a revenue as well as reducing our fuel bills. ●



Your opinions will help shape the future of the pool continued from page 1

A number of interesting questions and suggestions were raised by the people in attendance.

- “ Why has HPT not considered installing solar panels that could bring in savings of £40k each year? This money could be recycled into other schemes ...sustainability should be an option ”
- “ Would it be better to market the gym rather than expand it ”
- “ The idea of developing a building at the west end is a good idea but the gym should be sited there and the soft play area go into the current gym space, next to the training pool, not at the deep end ”
- “ What constraints exist from a planning perspective? Does HPT have a feel for whether planning permission from Richmond will be granted? (It was noted that both LB Richmond and The Royal Parks will need to give consent and could impose constraints.) ”
- “ Can permanent storage be included in the plans to get rid of the range of sheds around the pool ”
- “ A better reception area would improve the first impressions ”
- “ The loss of car parking space for new building plans is a concern ”
- “ Manage car parking with better use of existing or reduced space ”
- “ Options should include new facilities for children and families ”
- “ HPT must keep the facility community based ”
- “ The west end is currently empty space ”
- “ Taking up car park space for building is not a good idea ”
- “ Move reception and shop into west end space and reuse reception area for something else ”
- “ Extending the café would enable it to be used all year round and customers would be able to see the pool from inside the café ”
- “ Could the long area behind the training pool be covered? ”
- “ HPT should make more use of the existing ice cream kiosk ”
- “ HPT could try temporary initiatives such as 'coffee spot' to try out before committing to building a new coffee counter ”

The Board is following up on the open forum with a public questionnaire to give the wider community a chance to make their views known on the four alternative building schemes. Once the Board has a full response it will evaluate the information and decide on a final proposal.

Win tickets to the Summer Picnic Concerts

If you would like to make a comment or offer alternative ideas please scan this code using the i-nigma app or go to Hampton Pool Trust's website at www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk/build-survey to see the concepts in more detail. If you complete the online survey you could win a total of 6 tickets for a Hampton Pool Summer Picnic Concert of your choice. The closing date for the questionnaire is the end of June. ●



Fundraising

Summer Picnic Concerts 2013!

by Tim Lawes, Finance Director and Trustee.

This year's concert season promises to provide six excellent evenings of enthralling performances of great music in a really intimate environment and to raise tens of thousands of pounds to help the Trustees in their mission to ensure the long term future of the pool.

The series opens on Friday 12 July with 'Rainy Days and Mondays – The Carpenters Story', a stunningly evocative tribute to some of the '70s best melodic popular music that raises the hairs on the back of my neck. On Saturday 13 July, **The Albion Band** open the evening with the new generation of folk superstars playing folk-rock that engages and excites me. The main act is **Show of Hands**, crossing folk, roots and americana, still producing stunning new albums after 25 years and who held me spellbound when they sold out the Royal Festival Hall in February.

Friday 19 July, opens with **Chris Farlowe** who is still a great live performer and still sells out. I really enjoyed him last year, and also at the legendary 100 Club – we're so much more convenient! I have been going to see **The Zombies**, who headline, for over ten years. Their performances just get better and better and they continue to release excellent new albums. It's going to be a great evening. On Saturday 20 July **Mosquito-B**, from Quebec, open for Martin Fry's legendary **ABC** who helped define the 1980s with their album *Lexicon of Love* and 10 charting singles.

Friday 26 July opens with **The Chuck Farley Band**, described as R'n'B mixed with hints of Little Feat, Ry Cooder and The Band and always a delight to get you in the mood for a great evening with the iconic **Midge Ure**. Midge is playing with his full band in the intimate setting of our lawn, set off by the glorious pools in the background. On the Saturday, we have



Midge Ure and band play Hampton Pool on Friday 26 July

a glorious last night of the series with **Nearly Dan** opening the evening with the grooves of Steely Dan and **The Illegal Eagles** bringing the series to a great, grand finale.

It really is going to be a great series. Do come and join us, have fun and raise money for the future of the pool this summer! Buy your tickets online by scanning the code on the right with the i-nigma app on your phone or at www.hamptonpool.co.uk



Operations update

Hampton Pool is managed on behalf of Hampton Pool Trust by YMCA London South West. The ethos of this arrangement is 'Partnership working within a management agreement'

Poolside Swim & BBQ Club news

Summer is finally here!

Angela Garrett, YMCA LSW Director of Operations



The staff & management are in the process of getting Hampton Pool ready for the summer season, hopefully one of the hottest on record. I thought it would be a good idea to have an idea of what the staff get up to when at work.

A day in the life of a lifeguard

Wake up 04.50 to get to the pool for 05.30 and for setting up. I start by taking the pool covers off which takes 10 minutes; put the lane ropes in – five minutes; do a pool test – 10 minutes; and then finally a quick check around the building and do any jobs required before Hampton Pool opens.

Then straight on to poolside for 40 minutes. Unfortunately, most people think that this is a break while we are on poolside. However, this is our main job to watch what people are doing in the water and keep them safe and it can be hard work. We work through all hours of the day from 06.00 to 22.00, through all weather conditions from the freezing cold, burning sun, rain, hail, snow and gale force winds.

I then come off poolside for 20 minutes where I check the changing rooms, toilets and pick a job to do off the lifeguard job sheet. Once completed, I go back on poolside for 40 minutes. If the pool is not too busy I can brush the bottom of the pool. When I come off poolside I have 20 minutes to take my break, so I run upstairs and order some porridge and while waiting I do some checks. I go back upstairs for a 10 to 15 minute break where I eat breakfast. Then before you know it, I'm back on poolside for another 40 minutes.

Normally we have to change the pool around for activities that are going on during the day. Off poolside for another job and then a quick break. In an eight hour shift we should take a one hour break which we get in 10 or 15 minute mini-breaks. We often don't get all of our breaks. Back on poolside for another 40 minutes. All the days are different so we can have a day where we see 300 people through the door and others where we see 3,500 people.

Another four times on poolside shifts then I have finished my eight hour shift at 13.30. At some point I fit lunch in.

Most of the lifeguards also work as qualified swim teachers, receptionists, café staff, gym instructors and/or class teachers. So after our shift we often do other jobs. We sometimes have to do these during our shift if the pool is busy or someone phones in sick.

All this work makes sure that Hampton Pool is open 365 days.

So next time you're at the pool, maybe you will think about how much hard work goes into your swim and say hello to us – we don't bite!

Major repairs on the pool filters

YMCA LSW has fitted brand new filters in the learner pool plant room. We now have four filters which are twice the height of the three old ones that will give us better filtration and therefore improving our water and our backwashing.



Old learner pool filters New taller filters

For the main pool, we emptied the old sand from the filters, relined the inside of the tanks, refilled them with a new silica based media and replaced the front pipework and valves.



New pipe work and valves on the main pool filter tank



The inside of the emptied main pool filter tank

This work has cost a large amount of money. Although it's something hidden in the plant rooms and you are unlikely to see the sort of difference it makes, it is essential to the running of the pools. The filter media has to be replaced every seven to 10 years. There will be more work to do on the plant rooms in the near future.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuous support and to enjoy this wonderful unique outdoor pool and facilities.

Have a great summer. ●

Barbara Perry,
Chair of the Poolside Swim and BBQ Club

Our club season for 2013 started at the end of March and lasts until the end of September. Although the weather has not been that good – apart from the glorious early May bank holiday weekend – it's been great to catch up with returning members and also welcome new members.

On our morning sessions we are often joined by the pair of mallard ducks either in the pool or on the edge. The ducks have also ventured up to the cafe in the mornings whilst some of us are having breakfast.



One of the key things about our club is that we provide voluntary help to promote the pool or assist at events. Throughout May, June and July, we are helping at various local fetes promoting the pool and the concerts. During the concerts themselves we'll be staffing the bar and providing stewards – look out for us in our black T-shirts.

In case you don't know about the Poolside Swim and BBQ club we have exclusive use of the pool Saturday and Sunday mornings 8.00 to 9.00am, Tuesday evening 7.00pm to 8.30pm and Sunday evening 6.15 to 8.00 or 8.30pm (depending on the weather). On the evening sessions we also light the BBQ and members can bring their own food to eat. We're always pleased to welcome new members - individual adults, couples or families. If you're interested in finding out more about our club look on the Hampton Pool website or ask at the main desk and reception will either be able to help you or put you in touch with one of the club Committee members.

Here's hoping for a good summer of swimming. ●

Join the club! Do you like the idea of sharing the pool with a sociable group of Hampton Pool enthusiasts? You can find information of how to become a member of this friendly club on the pool website.

Write to **Daphne Wharton**, HPT Chair and editor of Poolside Chat by email daphne.wharton@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk or by letter to Hampton Pool Trust, Hampton Pool, High Street, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2ST.