

hampton pool trust

Poolside Chat

News from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

SUMMER 2015

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 100 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 six times a year 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



1985-2015

The official re-opening party back in 1985

Thirty Year's On!

by Jo Coles, Hampton Pool Trustee

This June, Hampton Pool Trust will be celebrating 30 years since it saved the pool from closure. Back in 1983, a small team of local residents got together to raise the £20,000 needed to stop the bulldozers coming in and filling the pool up with earth and grassing over the land, returning it to Bushy Park.



This dedicated team of volunteers who set up the Trust, knocked on the doors of businesses and residents asking for donations. Fun runs were organised together with stalls selling everything from jewellery to books and floats were decorated which took part in local parades, all to raise the much needed funds to save the pool. This all began with the Sink or Swim campaign. >>page 3

<< Early local pool enthusiasts in February 1984 at the forlorn and abandoned pool. Left to right: Tony Harris, Jane Smith, Stuart Leamy, Marshall Lees and Gavin Alexander.

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We are a charity that depends on voluntary assistance and donations to secure the future of the pool.

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

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

SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

T.Rextasy & ELO Experience / The Stranglers & Nine Below Zero / Kid Creole & The Coconuts & Geno Washington and the Ram Jam Band / Lulu & The Carnabys / Killer Queen & Absolute Bowie / Joan Armatrading & Troy Faid

FUNDRAISING FOR THE FUTURE OF HAMPTON POOL

HPT Chairman's Letter

Welcome to our summer 2015 edition of Poolside Chat

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This is my first opportunity to write to our membership (and the wider Hampton Pool community) in the role of Chairman of the Trust and I hope that by the time you have finished reading this piece you will feel more informed about how the pool may develop and the ongoing work of the Trust.

Firstly, I would like to thank my fellow Trustees for their continued passion for the pool, their commitment to work to secure its future and the personal time they devote to working on pool related matters outside all the other calls on your time. I would also like to thank those individuals who have congratulated me on becoming Chairman and for expressing their best wishes and support, I'm very grateful. At this point I must thank my predecessor, Daphne Wharton, who stepped down as Chair of the Trust at the Board Away Day in November 2014, for all her hard work in the role. Daphne, as many of you will know, has been (and remains) a tremendous supporter of the pool and of the Trust for many years and worked tirelessly as Trust Chair to help safeguard the pool. We haven't lost all Daphne's experience though and she continues to sit on the Board and working groups and is an encyclopaedic source of knowledge for me when I need answers or background information.

Christmas Day in 2014 was another tremendous success for the pool with 1,500 people visiting to make sure that any overindulgence later in the festivities had been adequately mitigated in advance! I continue to be amazed by the levels of popularity Hampton Pool enjoys not just on one-off, special occasions such as 25 December but all year round.



TV Appearances

Not only do we regularly appear in lists highlighting the best outdoor pools in the UK but we're also on the location lists for television producers. The sharp eyed amongst you may have noticed that the Channel 5 programme *The Gadget Show* visited us to test out new cutting edge technology whilst Carol Kirkwood broadcast her BBC early morning weather forecast updates across all BBC outlets (live Breakfast TV, BBC Radio, online and on social media) in April. Thankfully it was a beautiful morning for the live TV weather forecasting and the pool looked resplendent.



<< The BBC's Carol Kirkwood returned to Hampton Pool in April to present the weather for BBC Breakfast



Summer Picnic Concerts

As regular users of the pool will know, there is always something either about to take place, has just taken place or is being considered for the future and so it is that we are about to enter the Summer Picnic Concert series for 2015. Once again the small but dedicated planning group that puts this series together have confirmed an outstanding series of concerts. Events such as these don't 'just happen' and everyone's enjoyment can only take place with the immense support and tireless work of members of the Poolside Swim & BBQ Club, whether that's in volunteer stewarding, bar management or any one of a dozen other roles that crop up. Thank you on behalf of the Board and the thousands of ticket holders who will benefit from your hard work.

Pool Development

When I wrote in our last Poolside Chat I said that "We stand at a pivotal moment in the operational life of Hampton Pool" and that very much remains the case today. There are a number of very complicated negotiations ongoing to



<< The Gadget Show's Jason Bradbury tested Triathlon gear for the programme.

develop and safeguard the pool for the benefit of all users and future generations and I'd like to share a brief update on those with you.

Firstly, readers may know that we sit within the boundaries of Bushy Park, one of The Royal Parks, and as such we require a licence to operate and this is issued by The Secretary of State in the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. In practise, this is issued and managed by The Royal Parks on his (or her) behalf. Our current licence is coming to an end in a couple of years and discussions started last year to renew it but, as you might imagine, with clauses, sub-clauses, statements and legal liabilities it will take careful discussions to get everything right. The Borough Council are also involved so there is an additional dimension there to be considered. All of this pretty much guarantees that negotiations will take some time to conclude and that's without the complication of a General Election and any subsequent policy changes that may transpire!

We're also about to enter a crucial development phase whereby the Trust, in partnership with the YMCA London South West, will work to enhance existing facilities and develop the site to be able to offer more space, an enhanced programme of activities and better facilities for all our users. Readers may have noticed coloured paint in places around the pool as the early stages of surveying commenced. The development project has been discussed for some time now and I am aware of some frustrations within our membership that it's taken as long as it has and that there will be no visible signs of change for some months yet. We have appointed an architect for the project and we are about to appoint further specialists to the team to allow us to put forward more detailed plans for consideration. Part of the process will be consultation within the pool user community and further afield and I very much look forward to sharing our vision for the future of Hampton Pool when we have those detailed plans available.

Lastly, but by no means least, having re-appointed the YMCA London South West as our preferred managing contractors we are discussing and re-drafting the management agreement between both sides. This is a perfect opportunity to ensure that safeguards are built into the agreement for both parties and that key performance measurement criteria can also be identified and addressed for your Trust to be able to measure how well the YMCA are managing the pool.

As you can see, a lot happening and we will keep you updated on progress.

Finally, congratulations to William Hollis on his appointment as Simon's deputy at the pool and my thanks to all the staff who do such a terrific job on a daily basis. Here's to a tremendous summer, a successful Summer Picnic Concerts series and to the continued success of our outstanding Hampton Pool. ●

Mike White

Mike White, Hampton Pool Trust Chairman

HPT initiatives

Celebrating 30 years of positive community action

Thirty Year's On!

by **Jo Coles**, Hampton Pool Trustee

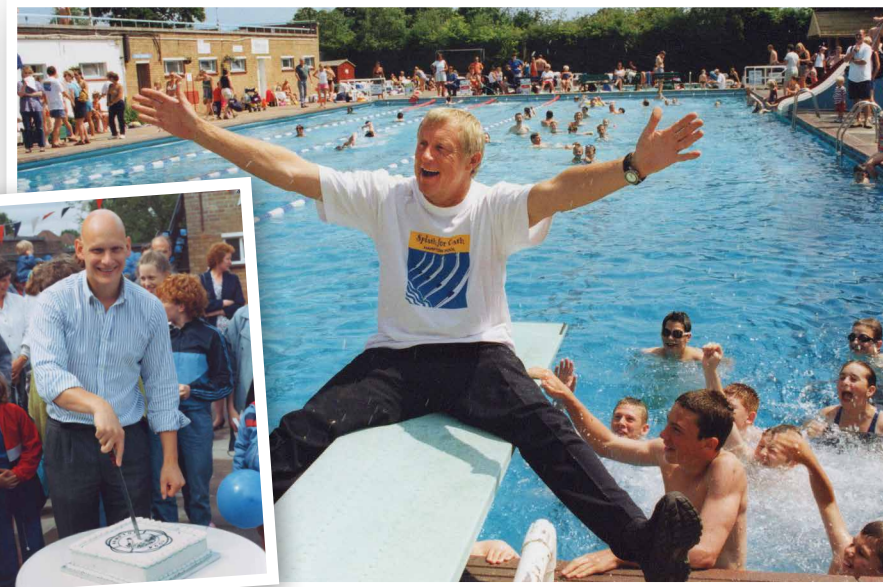
<< continued from front cover There have been many other fundraising initiatives over the years that have led to the installation of the children's pool and the refurbishment of the main pool and the building. The day-to-day running of the pool was organised by the volunteers and as the popularity of the pool grew so did the amount of work to be done.



<< Sink or Swim campaign included fun runs in Bushy Park

Today, YMCA LSW have taken on the responsibility of managing the pool and the partnership between them and the Trust means we have a very successful and inspirational heated open air pool. Thanks to those first brave volunteers and all the other people who have tirelessly offered their help over that last 30 years, we today have an amazing space for all to use and enjoy.

This June, a small temporary exhibition will be displayed at the pool as a thank you to all those that have played a role in the saving and running of Hampton Pool over the last 30 years. ●



<< Guest of honour and Olympic Gold Medal winner Duncan Goodhew officially reopened the pool for us in 1985. Presenter Chris Tarrant helped us with our Splash for Cash fundraising campaign for essential maintenance to the pool and building.

Well Done John!

We at Hampton Pool would like to congratulate John Starbrook on completing his amazing 50th marathon at this year's Virgin Money London Marathon. John is 84 years old and has so far raised £869.88 for Age UK. John not only runs but swims three times a week and plays water polo here at Hampton Pool. ●



>> Gym Manager Richard Mason and John at the pool. You can support John (Samuel Starbrook) at the following link: uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserProfilePage.action?userUrl=JohnStarbrook

Fundraising SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

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

Much In Demand!

by **Tim Lawes**, Series Producer & HPT Director

With top class original artists and tribute acts performing in our intimate, relaxed environment, the atmosphere at the Pool's Summer Picnic Concerts is very special. The pool's staff and our army of volunteers add to the occasion with their friendly, yet professional approach to stewarding and running the bar. This unique recipe helps ensure that we achieve our objective, to delight you, the audience, every season.



Our big team work hard to enhance the concert experience every year. Five out of six concerts sold out last year. As I write, we've already sold out four this summer and could well sell out all six. So, if you'd like to share one of these unique evenings with us, do get your tickets soon for one of the two remaining concerts.

Only two evenings left!



On Friday 10 July, there's the double header of the **ELO Experience** playing Jeff Lynne's orchestral pop, leading on to **T.Rexstasy** performing T Rex's good-time boogie with the spirit and passion of Marc Bolan.



On Saturday 18 July, we're delighted to welcome **Lulu** with her great backing band. She'll perform from her new, self-penned album, and classics too. Local boys making good, **The Carnabys**, provide a strong opening set.

Come and enjoy the party. We'll be delighted to see you at this, our major annual fundraising series. ●

Poolside Swim & BBQ Club news

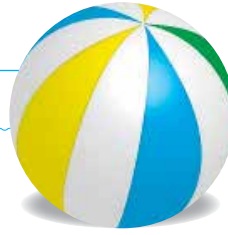
Join the club! Do you like the idea of sharing the pool with a sociable group of Hampton Pool enthusiasts? You can find information of how to become a member of this friendly club on the pool website.

hampton pool trust

A Special Relationship

Barbara Perry, Poolside Swim and BBQ Club Chair

It is not always possible to pinpoint exactly when each of us started to swim at Hampton Pool. I cannot exactly remember myself, but I moved to the area around 31 years ago and can remember swimming at the pool approximately 27 years ago. And then I joined "the club"!



A number of members of the Poolside Swim and BBQ Club remember swimming here when it was a municipal open air pool. They then formed part of the group who fought and succeeded in re-opening the pool as a charity.

Other members have been involved in keeping the pool open after that point and improving the facilities available – e.g. the new tank in 2004 and painting the changing rooms and railings.

As a club that loves and supports Hampton Pool, we are proud of the huge success that it has become and also the community involvement that made it a success and continues to be.

Poolside Swim and BBQ Club members enjoy private club sessions at the pool four times a week. We also support and promote the pool – in particular helping with the concerts. We want to make sure the pool continues to be a wonderful place to swim and relax, for ourselves, and the generations to come.

If you are interested in joining the club, check the pool's website or ask for a leaflet at reception. ●



Thank you...

Thanks to Nicola Gill, our local florist at *Branching Out*, who hosted a stunning window display in June advertising the summer concerts. ●

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'

Angela Garrett,
YMCA LSW Chief Operations Officer

Here we are – another summer at the Hampton Pool with a successful year behind us financially and operationally. The team are busy getting the pool ready for what hopes to be a very good summer, fingers crossed.

Congratulations to William Hollis. He was recruited as Assistant Centre Manager, a new post we introduced and very much needed.



Congratulations also to Adam Stevens and Rob Curtis who are now both Duty Managers.

IT System & Software

We are currently changing over our IT system at the pool to bring it in line with all our other centres under a centralisation programme for the Association. The changeover took place on Tuesday 13 May 2015. Please be patient! It may take a few days to get back to normal. In the longer term you will be able to check and book classes from a smartphone. Please ask a member of staff for further details.

Did you see...

BBC Breakfast (TV & Radio) weather forecasts on 21 April? The presentations were made from a sunny Hampton Pool where Simon Bailey was interviewed by Carol Kirkwood.



Changes in reporting

We are currently looking at online reporting for complaints, suggestions and incidence's, to name but a few. This will make reporting much easier and once we have this procedure up and running you will be notified. Please look out for notices.

Other Projects

Our work in the Richmond/Hampton area is growing from strength to strength. We were approached by the Trustees of the Hampton on Thames Community Association to take over the management of **The White House**, The Avenue, Hampton, a large community centre. With our input and expertise we hope to bring further benefits the people of Hampton and Hampton Hill. We took over management on 7 April 2015. With a great deal of investment and project plan, we aim to have the centre running even more successfully within a year. Like everything, it takes time and money.

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone who makes Hampton Pool the success it is. If you would like to discuss anything or if you have any concerns please contact me at angelagarett@ymcalsw.org or by phone on 020 83995427. ●

Write to Jo Coles, HPT Trustee and editor of Poolside Chat by email joanne.coles@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk or by letter to Hampton Pool Trust, Hampton Pool, High Street, Hampton, Middlesex, TW12 2ST.