

hampton pool trust

# Poolside Chat

The newsletter from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

Summer Issue 2021

## Back to the future!

Chair's Welcome by Jane Savidge



*A glorious summer at Hampton Pool*

Following the roller coaster of news about the pandemic in recent months, it's lovely to see so many people returning to swim and exercise at Hampton Pool. We are still hoping for a long hot summer and early autumn to make up for the poor spring!

Thank you to the Pool team for all the detailed planning which has enabled each pool reopening to happen swiftly and smoothly and for the continuing work to improve our "beach ready" changing experience. The resilience of all our users and members in coping with all of this has been amazing.

Whilst we wait for confirmation of the proposals for further easing of social distancing, we continue to work with YMCA St Paul's Group, our pool operator, to plan for a phased return to our usual operating model once this can be safely reintroduced. We will be proceeding with caution to ensure the continuing safety of pool staff and our customers. For the time being, all pool customers do still need to book ahead using the app or website before arriving at the Hampton Pool. *Continued over...*

### Get on board

Hampton Pool Trust (HPT) is a small, independent, not for profit company and educational charity.

It is run by volunteers from the local community with a vision to maintain Hampton Pool as a safe, welcoming, enjoyable, sustainable and inspirational heated, public open air swimming environment, all year round.

The Trust owns the building and the Pool and exists to secure the long-term future of the Pool for community use. Hampton Pool is managed on behalf of Hampton Pool Trust by YMCA St Paul's Group.

Both are registered charities. There are over 400 members of Hampton Pool Trust who care deeply about the facility and how it is run.

Please contact the Trust at the address below if you too would like to become a member – or even a Trustee.

*The HPT Board of Trustees are:*

Ralph Arundell  
Deborah Boland  
Marguerite Cameron  
Andy Cowper  
Mark Doyle  
Alex Fell  
Grahame Hadden  
Jean Hughes Bell  
Stuart Leamy  
Jane Savidge – Chair  
Mark Sherwin – Company Secretary  
Daphne Wharton  
Michael White

Please contact the Trust by email at [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)

Please visit [hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](http://hamptonpooltrust.org.uk) for more information on improvements

**Do you have a story you'd like to share? To contact the Trust, please send your message to [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)**

## Back to the Future! *continued*

*Jane Savidge, Chair*

In some ways this issue of Poolside Chat reflects the turbulence we are all experiencing! Alongside the disappointing news that we have been forced to postpone our fundraising concerts, of which more later in this issue, we are also looking forward, as we plan an exciting year of events and activities to mark the centenary of Hampton Pool on 24 June 2022.

We are at a pivotal point in our history, reflecting on the role of the Pool from the 1920s to the present and looking forward as we plan the redevelopment of our community pool for the next 100 years! The unanimous approval of our plans by Richmond and Wandsworth Planning Committee in November 2020 was reported in our winter issue; this issue includes an update on more recent developments and how we will communicate with our neighbours and stakeholders. 




*Inside-out at Hampton Pool*

## Thank you, welcome and an invitation

**We were sorry to say goodbye to Sandra Cummings, Tim Lawes and Sam Murphy who have stepped down from the Board of Hampton Pool Trust. Thank you to Sandra, Tim and Sam for their significant contribution to Hampton Pool Trust in recent years.**



We are pleased to welcome three new Trustees: **Deborah Boland, Marguerite Cameron, and Mark Sherwin** (*seen above, left to right*) who were elected at the Trust AGM in March following a period of working on the Board as co-opted members. Deborah and Marguerite are both heavily involved in supporting the Pool building redevelopment and Mark has become our new Company Secretary. We currently continue to meet mainly online but hope to return to face-to-face meetings by the autumn.

We continue to strengthen the Trust Board and committees to help with our wide-ranging and ambitious work programme. If you have expertise and time and would like to help with our major projects, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact [secretary@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:secretary@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk). 

## Hampton Pool Centenary: a milestone birthday!


**Happy Birthday to Hampton Pool! 99 years old on 24 June 2021! This means that next year will be Hampton Pool's Centenary, an incredible milestone in the history of the pool!**



We are beginning to plan the sequence of events and activities to mark the occasion, some online and others face-to-face to take place throughout the year in some cases linked to fundraising. This will be a fantastic opportunity to celebrate and socialise again after the dark and difficult period of the pandemic and we invite you to get involved, by contributing to the planning, volunteering at the events or joining us at the celebration next year.

At this stage we would love to hear your suggestions about events and activities to mark the big birthday! We have a small steering group who will coordinate the programme who will consider all ideas no matter how large or small so please do send ideas and contact details to [info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](mailto:info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)



In addition to finalising the programme, we are keen to collect memories, stories and photographs about your experience of Hampton Pool, if you learned to swim at the pool, have memories of the pool, or stories to share whether from decades ago or more recently since re-opening we would love to hear from you. We are hoping to build a tapestry of memories to mark the centenary and for future generations. 

*(cake photo by Paul Campbell)*

# Summer Picnic Concerts update

As many of you will know, uncertainties about the removal of social distancing led us to take the difficult decision to postpone our 2021 concerts season for a second year to July 2022.



## hampton pool SUMMER PICNIC CONCERTS

The concerts are the major fundraiser for the Trust and the loss of these last year and this is hugely disappointing. However, with no confirmed date for the lifting of restrictions and lack of progress on government backed event cancellation insurance, we reached a point at which we begin to incur significant expenditure. As a charity we could not go ahead with the concerts knowing that this would lead to a deficit, hence our reluctant decision to postpone.

This would normally be the busiest time in our concert planning year during which we are helped by an army of volunteer stewards and bar staff who contribute to the great atmosphere and success of these events. The volunteers are organised by **Barbara Perry**, Chair of Hampton Pool Consultative Group and Co-Chair of the Poolside Swim and BBQ Club who told us:

“In addition to the HPT Board members involved, who are all volunteers, there are between 25 and 30 volunteers needed for each concert. They work either on the bar or as stewards. This means lots of communication as we request volunteers and then work out who can work which evening. Space behind the bar is tight, so we organise numbers and roles carefully to ensure we don't trip over one another!

Many of the volunteers come from the Poolside Swim and BBQ club, with others drawn from a wider group of pool users and

concert supporters, including volunteers who help to put up and take down the tents.

Despite the pandemic many people were willing to help once again this year. All our volunteers are highly valued, whether they are able to work at several or even all the concerts, or at just at one or two. We will be putting out the call for support again for next year's concerts and we look forward to bringing our regular band of volunteer together again.”



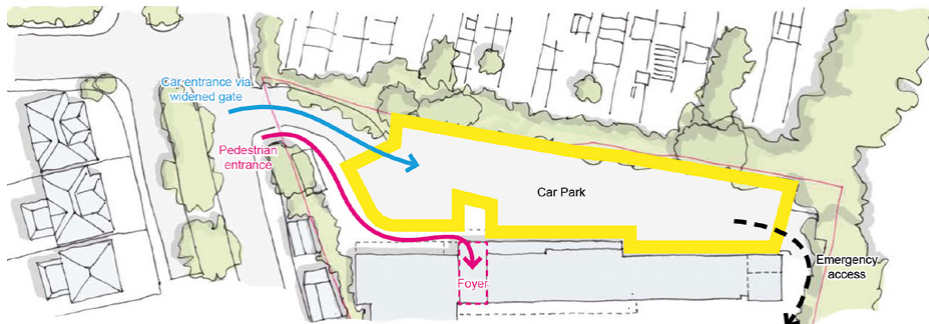
*Sophie Ellis-Bextor, one of the postponed acts playing in 2022*

The Trust would like to say a huge thank you to our volunteers and to the many ticket holders who are supporting us by continuing to hold on to concert tickets. We all look forward to a fantastic concerts season in 2022. [P](#)

# Building for the future: keeping in touch – an update

As many of you will know, our plans for the redevelopment of Hampton Pool were approved by London Borough of Richmond and Wandsworth Planning Committee in November 2020. Having achieved this first stage approval, the next step was to return the plans to Greater London Authority (GLA) for consideration at Stage 2 and we are currently completing work to sign off the planning conditions to enable this stage to be completed.

One of these is a requirement that Hampton Pool Trust contributes to the cost of highways changes linked with widening the pool entrance gates and improvements to the cycle lane and signage close to the entrance; another is that we set up a neighbourhood liaison group for those living close to the pool. This group will operate alongside Hampton Pool Consultative Group which has been in existence for some years and alongside existing Trust communication with members.



Traffic flow at the entrance from the 2016 proposal drawings

This **Neighbour Liaison Group** will launch once planning is completed and will provide updates and information to close neighbours as construction progresses. Further information will be added to the Hampton Pool Trust webpages and distributed to local roads.

**Hampton Pool Consultative Group** includes representatives of the different groups using the Pool and has a focus on the overall operation. Hampton Pool Trust members will continue to receive regular Chair's updates. Conversation and presentations about the Building Project will be held once the Planning Permission process is complete and we have updated building plans to share.

For further information see the Trust website at [www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk](http://www.hamptonpooltrust.org.uk)



## Green Transport funding secured

We were delighted to receive funding from Richmond upon Thames Community Fund to support our green transport plans.

We now have the resources to install much improved rain-proof storage for bicycles and electric bikes. We are due to go to tender to procure equipment shortly.

hampton  
pool trust

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YMCA

## How you can help

### How you can support Hampton Pool Trust and the Pool

We are grateful for your continuing support through these difficult times. Here are some of the ways you can continue to support Hampton Pool Trust and the pool.

**1 Pre-book a swim or a class and come and join us**  
We're over the peak in demand experienced just after reopening and waiting lists have disappeared or shrunk to small numbers so do join us to swim or to exercise. The pool is magical all year round but really special in the summer. Our ever-popular Moonlight Swims are back too!

**2 Keep hold of those Summer Picnic Concert tickets and join the party when the concerts go ahead next year!**

**3 Make a donation via JustGiving**  
Head to *JustGiving* and search for 'Hampton Pool Trust' to make a donation, we're grateful for your support, large or small. We will ensure the money raised will be used to help secure the future of Hampton Pool.



**4 Raise funds while you shop**  
Hampton Pool Trust is registered with the *Amazon Smile* initiative. Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases back to Hampton Pool Trust. So when you go online to do your shopping, please log in to Amazon via [smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk) and search for **Hampton Pool Trust**. It costs you nothing, but will help us to raise vital funds for the Pool.

[smile.amazon.co.uk](http://smile.amazon.co.uk)