

hampton pool trust

Poolside Chat

The newsletter from the charity securing the future of Hampton Pool

Winter Issue 2019


Fancy a Moonlight Swim?

Our ever-popular Moonlight Swim sessions are back for 2019 and are already selling out fast.



Why not take the plunge and join us? Swimming under the stars is a really special experience and, with limited numbers of tickets for each session, it's an experience that isn't widely available. The first two sessions are fully booked, but at the time of going to print there are still a limited number of places available on the remaining dates:

Friday 6, 13, 20 and 27 December, Friday 6 January and Friday 10 April.

The two-hour session runs from 22:00 to midnight and costs £8.50 per adult and £4.25 per child, per session, bookable in advance. 

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
Andy Cowper
Sandra Cummings
Mark Doyle
Alex Fell
Grahame Hadden
Stephen Hooley – Chair
Jean Hughes Bell
Tim Lawes
Stuart Leamy
Sam Murphy
Jane Savidge
Daphne Wharton
Michael White

Please contact the Trust by email at info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk

Please visit hamptonpooltrust.org.uk/development for more information on the proposed improvements

Another golden summer concert series!

Mark Doyle, Concerts Producer

The July 2019 concerts were another success on all fronts. With sold out performances from the likes of ABC, Trevor Horn, Paul Carrack and The Bootleg Beatles, the concerts were popular with both audience and performers based on the feedback we received.



Woodstock veterans Ten Years After concluded our 2019 concert season

The concerts team introduced several innovations this year, both from the audience perspective and behind the scenes. The two most obvious areas of change were the introduction of electronic ticketing and digital payment / tills at the bar.

Electronic ticketing has significantly improved the ease with which we can manage the distribution of tickets at the time of sale and then we can more effectively manage entry on the concert days. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Dot and Dave Anderson for the many years they helped to distribute the physical tickets and to Stephen Hooley for all the work done to setup and manage the new electronic system.



Left: Matt Cardle on vocal duties for The Trevor Horn Band. Right: Martin Fry and ABC's triumphant return to the Hampton Pool fundraising Summer Picnic Concerts

This year we had a few paper tickets available at the Pool however next year we'll be 100% digital. Some events sold out within a week this year and so if you're not already signed up for concerts emails, go along and register for emails at the Concerts website (and tell your friends to sign up too!).

Although we don't intend to go fully cashless at the bar next year, the introduction of electronic payments / tills has gone a long way towards improving efficiency at the bar and paving the way to reducing our reliance on cash payments. The implementation went very smoothly, mainly due to the excellent work of Phil Torode and the bar team.

Finally, on behalf of the Trust, I'd like to thank all the members of the concert team who haven't already been mentioned for their 11-month long efforts to make the concerts a resounding success. And a thank you to the countless volunteers and pool staff who make the events recognised by our audiences as friendly and well run. The planning has already begun for July 2020 (the first event is on Friday 3 July) and we look forward to seeing many of you there. [P](#)

Fundraising challenge

Super Cycle Simon

Imagine cycling 180km in a day. Now imagine doing that for eight consecutive days! Simon Bailey, Hampton Pool's General Manager, recently did exactly that in order to raise money for Cancer Research UK.



Simon celebrates at the end of his mammoth challenge

Simon knew it was going to be a really tough challenge but was motivated to do it in honour of friends lost to cancer. "Cancer has touched everyone's lives in one way or another. In the last few years I have lost some great friends to cancer. We need to make cancer a thing of the past."

Simon completed this remarkable challenge, cycling the equivalent of Richmond to Stockholm in eight days, and has raised over £1,000 to date. If you would like to donate, please go to the [JustGiving](#) website and search [simon-bailey528](#). [P](#)

Fundraising opportunity

Help us raise funds whilst you shop!

Hampton Pool Trust is now registered with Amazon Smile.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases back to Hampton Pool Trust, so when you go online to do your Christmas shopping, please log in to Amazon via [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. Thank you! [P](#)

[smile.amazon.co.uk](#)

User Group feature: Aqua Fit

Sandra Cummings, Hampton Pool Trust Board Member and Aquafit regular

Aquafit is great exercise for all ages and abilities. This non weight-bearing, high resistance class is suitable for all.

When this popular class started there was only one a week, but we now have six classes each week which are run by Bridget, Jo, Petra and Maria. Each has their own style and music so there is something to suit everyone. When asked about their experiences of using the pool, people were keen to pass on how coming to Aquafit had improved not only their fitness but also their lives.

Bridget says "Well I think after all the years I have been at the pool I can honestly say that it is the most friendly and enjoyable place to be to exercise and teach. The ladies and gentlemen that come have made many acquaintances and I have been privileged to be part of that caring crowd.

For me I enjoy the teaching and feel I am making a positive difference to people's overall health both mentally and physically. For some people it takes a lot to 'don' a swimming costume and go into a public pool but I believe they come away feeling a better person and hopefully return and make new friends. The classes have grown so much over the last few years which proves that it is working."



Bridget, left, and some of our regular AquaFit attendees

Some quotes from the Aquafitters

"Transformed my life"

"Exercise, fresh air, laughter and good company, real feel good factors"

"Brilliant exercise for recovery from injury or operations"

"Great company and encouragement when you don't want to exercise on your own"

"Sets me up for the day however I am feeling and I now have a new set of friends as well"

"Great exercise, fun to participate"

"Excellent for both the mind and body"

"Lifts the spirits particularly in Winter"

"What's weightless, ageless and good for your heart?... outdoor aquarobics!"

"Makes me feel so much more positive about my health and wellbeing"

"Even on a grey depressing day its surprising how often the sun will break through to shine down on us and lift spirits"

"Lovely in the sunshine. Even lovelier on a bright Winters day with snow on the ground"

"Great noble feeling particularly in February, joining all the stalwarts to have fun together with fab teachers"

"When I had an operation last year the surgeon said how amazingly fit I was for my age and so recovered more quickly. All down to Aquafit."

"I don't know where I would be if it wasn't for Hampton Pool and especially Aquafit"

Operations Update


Building maintenance

Grahame Hadden, Technical Director

Our management team have been busy keeping up the maintenance of our buildings and infrastructure over the past few months.

It has been around 9 years since the last major refurbishment and although we have redevelopment plans in progress we do need to repair and maintain what we have.

The toilet cubicles in both the ladies and gents changing rooms have recently been replaced along with the changing cubicles in the gents. The ladies shower area has a new ceiling and low energy LED lighting. Both changing rooms have been decorated, water heater doors have been replaced and there are also new benches in the ladies. When other light fittings throughout the building fail, LED fittings are used as replacements where appropriate.

Behind the scenes, over in the main pool plant room (which has also recently been repainted), two of the eight pool condensing boilers have been replaced, and the old units kept for spares. So winter water temperatures should now be maintained! The small pool boilers have been serviced and refurbished ahead of the increased demands of the winter season. 


Making things easier:

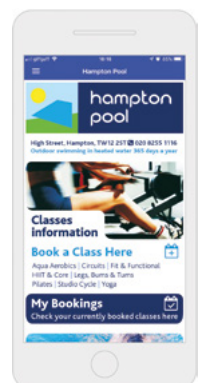
There's an app for that

Book and pay for classes and sessions online with live, up-to-date information.

Before you download the app, you will need to create an account by calling Hampton Pool reception on **020 8255 1116** or in person next time you visit.

The app is available to download at the App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android phones (search for YMCA SPG).

See the Pool's website or ask at reception for more details. 



An Ironman World Champion is in our midst!

Lifeguard at Hampton Pool, Laura Addie, recently claimed an impressive victory in the Ironman World Championships held in Kona, Hawaii. Even more impressive still, the race was only her second full Ironman, her first taking place earlier this year in Spain.



Laura crosses the line in first place in Kona, Hawaii

Despite qualifying for the prestigious Kona race with very little experience, Addie did not believe she would be returning to the UK with the Ironman world title. She said: "I could never have dreamt about coming home as World Champion. You want to go out and win but during an Ironman there's so many things that can go wrong. You're out there for 10 hours of racing, anything can happen".

The world champion's main goal for the near future is gaining her professional race licence, but this is not the Ironman star's only goal. She is also hoping to retake the world title, this time in an older and more competitive age group. Addie said: "I'm now going to be the youngest in the older age category. I will be returning to Kona in October, hopefully going back to not only take the next age group title but also the overall amateur title".

We're incredibly proud of Laura's achievement and will look forward to seeing her compete again in October. In the meantime, though, Laura will still be working as a lifeguard at the pool. "I love working at Hampton Pool, the staff, customers and atmosphere make it a great place to work and train," she said. "And thank you all for the messages of congratulations!"



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YMCA

Building Development Update


Planning Application Receives GLA Stage One Approval

Grahame Hadden, Technical Director

We are pleased to provide an update on progress with the Hampton Pool Development Project planning application following consideration by the Greater London Authority (GLA) on 9 September 2019.

The GLA has completed its Stage One review and accepts that our application meets the "very special circumstances" set out for permitted development on Metropolitan Open Land as outlined in the London Plan and draft London Plan policies. This means that the application can now move forward to be considered by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Planning Committee.

In addition to considering the documentation associated with the planning submission, the GLA decision has been informed by the independent viability study from Aspinall Verdi which concluded in favour of the development. The report was commissioned by London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Planning Department.

The GLA's review has raised queries about the roof, energy use, water and transport, all of which are being addressed. Once this process is complete our planning application should move forward for consideration by Richmond's Planning Committee, and if approved will go back to the GLA for Stage Two approval. 



Do you have a story you'd like to share?:

To contact the Trust, please send your message to info@hamptonpooltrust.org.uk